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Crackdown on foreign workers

News in Focus, Page 7



The new, mature **Shalom Hanoch**



Saddam Hussein's fatal family feud

The Magazine

Shabbat Shalom 11 World News 6

Sharansky, peeved, to boycott today's cabinet meeting

By SARAH HONIG

industry and Trade Minister Natur Sharansky of Yisrael Ba'aliya will boycott today's weeky cabinet session to underscore his serious rift with Prime Mioister Binyamin Netanyahu, until recently a close personal friend. -

"This is a serious crisis," Sharansky stressed yesterday, adding that he is "saying nothing veiled and nothing by way of a hint. I am officially registering my disappoinment."

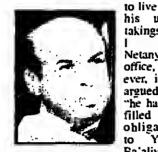
The Prime Minister's Office made no less than 10 attempts to reach Sharansky by phone, but all of the calls were answered by his staff with the claim that "the minister is too husy to talk."

Last night, Israel Radio reported that Netanyahu succeeded in reaching Sharansky by phone, but Sharansky remained adamant in his refusal to attend the cabinet meeting. Sources close to the prime minis.

ter maintained last night that no conversation had taken place at all. Despite all of this, sources close to Netanyahu sought to belittle the rift and describe it as "an artificial crisis which appeared at a curious time that happens to coincide with the fact that leading Yisrael Ba'aliya members are being questioned about their links to [Zvi Ben-Ari, also known as] Gregory Lemer."

Yisrael Ba'aliya sources said that Netanyahu's aides choosing to mention the Ben-Ari affair will only have the effect of fanning the

Sharansky ascribed the crisis to "the failure by the prime minister



Natan Sharansky to the other (Ariel Jerozilimski) coalition

imposed by hudgetary constraints." But the immediate trigger to the takings." row was apparently the appointmem of Foreign Ministry veteran Netanyahu's

office, how-Herzl Inbar as the new ambassador to Russia. Yisrael Ba'aliya ever, it was claimed that it had received a argued that "he had fulpromise that the ambassador would only be picked with its conobligations sent, and presumably that he would come from its ranks. to Yisrael Ba'aliya, as

Inhar was selected by the Foreign Ministry's professional staff committee, and is regarded standing recent achievement. Inhar had not been chosen by

Sharansky meets Barak,

Levy personally.
For its part, Yisrael Ba'aliya had insisted from the outset on this proof to its constituency both here and in Russia of its success and thereby also the success of the immigration from the CIS,

people, almost as a psychological

Caught almost hopelessly in this tug of war is Netaryahu, whose people insisted there had been no promise to appoint a member of Yisrael Ba'aliya to the Moscow post and that Netanvahu had evinced goodwill and a readiness to consult with the party.

See BOYCOTT, Page 2

Rioting erupts in Gaza

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH and ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Fierce violence broke out between Falestinians and IDF soldiers in two areas of Gush Katif yesterday, and resulted in the death of Abdel Karam Karwari, the injury of two Palestinians, and the blocking of the area's main road for several hours,

Two separate incidents of shots fired at Israeli vehicles were reported. In the first incident, an IDF vehicle accompanying a procession of cars, including the vehicle taking National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon to a waiting helicopter, was hit.

An aide traveling with Sharon, who had attended a ceremony in the area, said that they heard the shots, but doubted they had been aimed at Sharon.

See GAZA, Page 14



An IDF armored personnel carrier rolls into position near the Morag junction in the Gaza Strip yesterday, as Palestinians riot-

'Post' reporter wins JDC journalism award

By Jerusalem Post Staff

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee has awarded Jerusalem Post defense

correspondent Arieh O'Sullivan its newly inaugurated Smolar Journalism Israel-Diaspora

Relations. O'Sullivan, was recognized for his November 1996 article Moved to Serve, which explored the experiences and motivations of three immigrants who left the

comforts of their

homelands to serve in combat units in The JDC set up the Smolar and hopefully having an effect on Award to increase understanding of the Diaspora among Israelis, said Ralph Goldman, honorary vice president of the JDC and chairman of the panel that chose O'Sullivan's article from among over two dozen submitted by Israeli journalists from all media.

insight to Israeli readers about just how important Israel is to Jewish life in the Diaspora," Goldman said. "It can contribute to a great understanding among Israelis of

the sensitivities that Diaspora Jews hring to their relationship with Israel." O'Sullivan, a native of New

Orleans, said the soldiers he interviewed were the real heroes since they were the ones giving Israelis a better comprehension of Diaspora Jewish values, Zionism, and motivation. "Still, it's satisfy-

ing for any journal-ist to see his work Arieh O'Sullivan making an impact

society," O'Sullivan said. The award and its \$2,500 prize was named for and funded by the late Boris Smolar, former editorin-chief of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. O'Sullivan said he was donating a part of his prize to the Israel Hemophilia

Is the government ready for the 2000 problem?

When January 1, 2000, arrives, Israelis could wake up to find that their oational insurance benefits are not arriving, their income tax file is nowhere to be found, and their education records indicate they never completed the first

The 20th ceotury may have augured in the technology age, hot a small glitch in the system may wreak havoc when the new millennium arrives. Known alternately as the Millennium 2000 Problem, the Millennium Bug, or YK2, the glitch reflects a shortcut computer programmers took

in order to save byte space. Instead of putting in four digits for the year, programmers dropped the first two numbers and entered years by their last two digits - for example, "97" was input instead of "1997."

Unless the systems are taught to recognize the year 2000.

tury arrives computers will read the year as "00," and revert back to 1900 or simply go out of

whack. Unable to move ahead to the next century, confused computerized weapons systems could lose track of their missiles, stock markets could crash, and airplanes could get lost io mid-flight, as air

traffic systems fail. "The alarm bell has rung," says Jim Sinur, vice president of research for the Gartner Group. the venerable US research organization.

Io Israel, analysts are offering a mixed bag of forecasts regarding the government's readiness for the year 2000. The Treasury has set mid-1998 as the deadline by which each ministry has to solve the problem and is requiring all ministries to work within their

given hudgets. Three ways to solve the problem exist: Buy a Y2K-friendly computer system; divert in-house resources so that computer technicians spend their days going through an organizations' tens of thousands of lines of code; or huy appropriate software solutions and external advisory ser-

Either way, the cost of fixing the problem is rising exponen-

While it currently costs \$1.10 for each line of code, that is expected to rise to \$2.20 by 1998, and to continue multiplying as doomsday nears.

The Treasury, Bank of Israel and IDF say they have either solved the problem, or are on top of it and expect to have it solved

See 2000, Page 19

El-Baz fails in talks

By JAY BUSHINSKY

Egyptian mediator Osama el-Baz failed to bring Israeli and Palestinian officials back to the negotiating table yesterday, despite consecutive ses-sions with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The stalemate may have been precipitated by Palestinian pique over the US House of Representatives' resolution declaring Jerusalem as Israel's undisputed capital and by Israel's concern over the mini-intifada io Gush Katif.

El-Baz's meetings were to have been followed by a second round of talks between the two negotiat-

ing teams, led by cahinet secretary Danny Naveh and PA chief negouator Sach Erekat.

But neither Netanyahu nor Arafat briefed their respective personnel. presumably because no new diplomatic ground had been broken.

During their one-hour meeting in Tel Aviv, Netanyahu and el-Baz tried to bridge the gap between Israel and the PA over the construction on Har Homa, in southern Jenisalem.

The PA has been demanding a six-month settlement freeze in the West Bank and eastern Jerusalem as a prerequisite for convening final-status talks.

See EL-BAZ, Page 2

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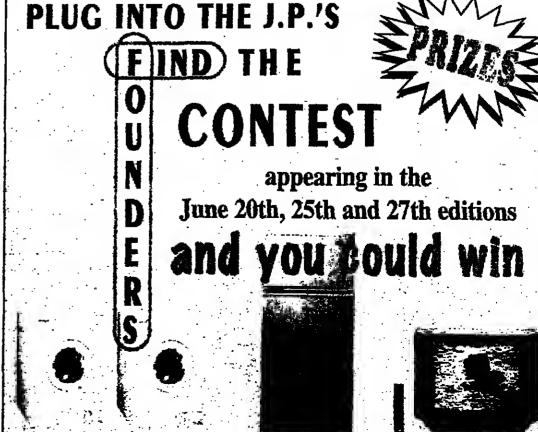
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20% of Palestinians and 40% of Israelis recognize that the other side has rights in the capital

By JON IMMANUEL

A survey on Palestinian attitudes toward Jerusalem indicates that there is some basis for believing an agreement could be reached that would be acceptable to most Israelis, according to researcher Jerome Segal.

Segal's survey, conducted for the Center for International and Security Studies at the University of Maryland in August and September 1996, was completed before the Jerusalem tunnel riots began a spiralling confrontation over Jerusalem. A companion survey on Israeli attitudes was completed just after the assassination of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin.

However, Segal says his findings still hold, namely that if Palestinians were to receive sovereignty over the areas of Jerusalem most important to them, which are mostly those areas least important to Israelis, agreement could be reached.

The figures, however, show the two sides.

Center for Research and Studies on the six-point "Beilin-Abu Mazen plan," Palestinian support on the Jerusalem aspect of the plan scored lowest by far.

However, at a Jerusalem press conference yesterday, Segal, who once produced a draft Palestinian constitution, warned of the dangers of postponing the Jerusalem issue until everything else is settled, since he said that would emphasize the religious character of the dispute over Jerusalem, which would otherwise be subsumed in the overall political solution of the Israeli-Palestinian con-

"A Jerusalem-centered conflict can be more explosive than a Palestinian-Israeli conflict," he said.

With the aim of expediting an understanding on Jerusalem, Segal and his coresearcher Nader Said emphasized its more positive aspects. Among the most contentious issues control over holy sites - the researchers found that 64 percent of Palestinians comare still very far from an agreement on this.

In a December poll by the Nablus-based that sovereignty "sbould belong to God."

They noted that 20% of Palestinians and 40% of Israelis recognized that the other side had legitimate rights in the city, a basis from which he said it could be possible to build a majority on both sides. Both people view the Jerusalem boundaries as policy instruments rather than as sacrosanct, he

NEWS

The basic situation is that 67% of Palestinians would consider "a special arrangement" for Jewish neighborhoods established across the Green Line, while 53% would consider Israeli sovereignty over Jewish neigbborhoods in the Old City if Palestinians got sovereignty over their Old City neigbborhoods.

However, any proposal falling short of Palestinian sovereignty in a large part of Arab-populated areas seemed, on the basis of the survey, destined for collapse, with Jerusalem residents being among the most redical on this point despite their acquisiradical on this point, despite their acquisition of Israeli residency rights.

870 interviewees participated in the survey, which had a 3% margin of error.

Settlers demand probe of suspected land dealer abduction

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

home on Wednesday.
In a letter to Prime Minister According to council spokesman Yehiel Leiter, the Palestinian man, in his early 40s, who lives in the Binyamin Netanyahu, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, and Hebron region, near Beit Hagai, is suspected of being involved in selling land to Israelis in the area. Maj.-Gen. Ya'acov Or, coordinator of activities in the territories, the council said the Palestinians Our concern is to prevent further deaths of suspected land dealare allegedly being questioned in

> being hurt," he said. Mordechai's media coordinator Avi Benayahu said the minister refused to discuss such issues in the media.

ers and also to prevent anyone

Meanwhile, an aide at the Prime Minister's Office said they are still investigating if such a request had been received and were therefore unable to comment.

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46. The additional number was 34.

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis
Chance draw No. 160, the winning cards were the ace of spades, jack of hearts, king of diamonds, and king of clubs. In draw No. 161, the winning cards were the 10 of spades, eight of hearts, eight of diamonds, and nine of

Heading for a fall

BOYCOTT

by Sharansky and Finance

The recommendations were

erated by the ministers last week,

when there was considerable

opposition to them, despite

But as things stood late last night, the only Yisrael Ba'aliya

representative at the cabinet ses-

sion will be Absorption Minister

Yuli Edelstein, who will be there

to defend his party's interest on

the issue of job opportunities for

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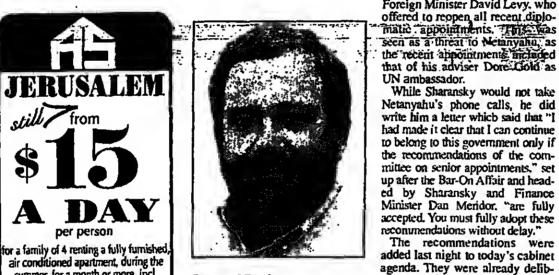
The Council of Young Israel Rabbis

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Netanyahu's initial support.

In yesterday's Payis Hazak draw, ticket number 189744 on the NIS 1 million prize, while ticket number 560292 won a car. Tickets 862329. 415579, 899007, 210897, 611337, 465680, 013210, and 525958 won NIS 5,000. Tickets ending in 42287, 18770, 57555. 57205, 09885, 94498, 84064, 96440, 16281, 58697, 96633. 17170, 08901, 61772, 59284, 76971, 55655, 36107, and 02963 won NIS

Tickets ending in 746, 057, 517, and 714 won NTS 100. Tickets ending in 29 and 82, won NIS 30. Tickets ending in 8 and 2 won NIS 10.



Leonard Davis

CORRECTION

In Tuesday's report on the con-firmation of Leonard Davis, former director of AIPAC's Israel office, as the political minister at the embassy in Washington, we inadvertently published a photo of the late philanthropist Leonard

EL-BAZ Continued from Page 1

Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani tries out one of the motorcycles belonging to the

Tel Aviv police's new motorcycle unit, at the unit's inauguration ceremony yesterday. After

warning the police to ride carefully, Kahalani took a short test drive and fell off the motorcy-

cle. Kahalani, who has a motorcycle license, wasn't injured.

While Netanyahu was unable to reach Sharansky, he did talk to Foreign Minister David Levy, who El-Baz then proceeded to Ramallah for a two-hour session with Arafat and other Palestinian offered to reopen all recent diplo-matic appointments. This was seen as a threat to Metanyahu, as the recent appointments included that of his adviser Dore Gold as negotiators. He left immediately afterward for Cairo, saying mediation efforts would continue, while expressing the hope that "a posi-tive spirit will lead to a breakthrough in the situation that will While Sharansky would not take allow the peace process to be pre-

After the meeting, Arafat convened his close aides, and Palestinian sources said the gaps between the two sides apparently remained wide.

Speaking immediately after the Netanyanu-el-Baz discussion Naveh said he was "not convinced that an Israeli-Egyptian-Palestinian meeting will take place today."

However, he said Israel did not negate holding one - even though more work is required at the technical level.

Erekat reportedly said yester-day's meeting "demonstrated that there is a gap between the two sides." But he deemed it premature to draw conclusions about the el-Baz mission.

Netanyahu's director of communications, David Bar-Illan, tried to put an optimistic spin on the day's talks. "What hopeful is that they are going on," he said.

But privately, sources contended that the stage may have been reached in which the US, which recommended Egyptian mediation, should inform Cairo that "there must be concrete results, otherwise there is no point to the exercise."

Palestinian observers dismissed the Egyptian effort as a gimmick meant to improve Egypt's image in Washington. "That is why el-Baz is following in the footsteps of [US. peace envoy] Dennis Ross," one of them said. "But protocol and format are not the problem; its core is Israel's ongoing settlement activi-

Unequivocal skepticism about the wisdom of the Netanyahu gov-eniment's having asked Egypt fo mediate was expressed yesterday by Hebrew University Prof.

Yehoshua Ben-Porat. He contended that it is against. Israel's national interest to have asked Egypt to arbitrate because of its "hostility" and its prolonged campaign to undermine Israel's diplomatic and economic links with African and other Third

World countries. Angry Palestinian reactions to the US Congress's vote on Jerusalem were constant in the el-Baz-Arafat dialogue, the initial phase of which was a one-on-one exchange. The two had lunch together, after which they were

joined by their aides. Arafat assailed the American legislators for condemning the recent murders of Palestinian land dealers, declaring that "today there is a conspiracy against the peace.

Arafat told Palestinian students: that "Israel must understand that Jerusalem is the Palestinian nation's capital and will remain forever as an Arab, Islamic, and

Christian capital." He accused Netanyahu of authorizing construction at Har Homa in: order to put up hotels there and steal the tourists who are scheduled to visit nearby Bethlehem in the year 2000.

Jon Immanuel contributed to this

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Just as we are reaching the denouement in the Bar-On scandal, with the Supreme Court due to rule on Sunday whether Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu or Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi should be indicted, and whether Hanegbi can continue to serve in his position, another equally juicy political scandal is crouching at the door that involving Zvi Ben-Ari (formerly known as Gregory Lerner).

With most pundits and legal commentators rating as slim the chances that the Supreme Court will intervene in the Bar-On matter, that scandal - which has preoccupied much of the country for six months - is on the way out. If the Supreme Court does not rule that indictments are in order, then Shas leader Arych Deri will go to court - a process that will take years - and the scandal will be behind us. But lest we should be bored, another scandal is very much on its way in.

The Ben-Ari Affair, with the protagonist suspected of defrauding Russian banks of \$85 million and being involved in murder, is easily as compelling as the Bar-On Affair. Granted, Bar-On involved the prime minister, but the new drama involves politicians from both the opposition and coalition.

As of yet, we don't know who will be questioned in the affair. except that the press is saying there will be three ministers and five MKs, plus numerous high level politicos who had dealings with Ben-Ari.

While in the Bar-On Affair, one man, Deri, allegedly wanted Roni Bar-On as attorney-general to further his own

legal interests, in the Ben-Ari case, the accused allegedly wanted to further his business interests so much that he covered all bets and either contributed or tried to contribute to Likud, Labor and Yisrael Ba'aliya. Whereas the Bar-On

pitted Affair Sepbardim against Ashkenazim, the new

affair - with Natan Sbaransky and his Yisrael Ba'aliya party allegedly involved - will pit immigrants from the former Soviet Union against veterans.

The attacks against the new immigrants only strengthens us," Yisrael Ba'aliya activist Efraim Melamed was quoted as saying yesterday, apparently taking his cue from Shas statements made after the attorney-general decided to indict Deri over Bar-On. "If they continue to scream from morning to night that we are connected to the Russian Mafia, we will get 14 seats in the next Knesset, not seven."

The "Don't Know" defense will surely be used in the Ben-Ari case, as it was in the Bar-On case. Just as Nejanyahu said he didn't know there was any pressure to appoint Bar-On, so MKs and ministers who may have

> Ari will surely say they did not know the source of that money. And, as in the Bar-On Affair, the public's knowledge of the whole investigation is coming from leaks to the press. Once again we are all waiting for word from the police about who is involved.

received money or

services from Ben-

and how deep. Ironically, the 1994 amendment to the 1973 Financing of Parties Law was enacted to put an end to the type of influence ped-

dling alleged in the Ben-Ari case. Prior to 1994, candidates could receive NIS 24,000 from individual donors. This amount was cut by the amendment to NIS 1,200 during election years, and NIS 600 during ordinary ones. Furthermore, the contributions must come from voters, and can not come from organizations or institutions. To make up for the lost revenue, the state increased public funding to the par-

ties by some 30 percent.

The law dealing with contributions to candidates in primaries is a linle more lenient, with the ceiling being NIS 6,100. Furthermore, this law limits the money any candidate can spend to NIS 300,000. The loophole in this law is that it is in effect only nine months before the primary. Prior to that time, there are no limits to what a candidate can raise.

Anna Schneider, the legal advisor to the Knesset Finance Committee, said the amendment to the Party Financing Law was enacted specifically to reduce the chances of influence peddling, of one candidate becoming too dependent on a giver.

In other words, the rules for campaign giving are very well sorted out. Whether people abide by them, however, is a different question altogether. If Ben-Ari did indeed exceed the campaign limits in contributions to any of the parties, he wouldn't be the first. In March, State Comptroller

Miriam Ben-Poral slapped fines for funding irregularities totaling more than NIS 6.6 million on six parties, with Labor and Likud each being fined more than NIS 2m. In imposing these fines. Ben-Porat said she was "lenient," since the laws were new. Next time, she warned, the penalties would be much more severe. Next time, it seems, may have already arrived ... and with a vengeance.

Tichon calls for speedy probe of MKs

and SARAH HONIG

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon has asked that the police investigation into the possible funding of political parties by Zvi Ben-Ari (previously known as Gregory Lerner). who is suspected of several crimes both here and in Russia, be finished as quickly as possible to lift the shadow which is hanging over MKs from at least three parties.

Yesterday, it was reported that Nissim Zvilli, who resigned as Labor Party secretary-general last week, is the first MK likely to be asked to give evidence in the case. Police reportedly plan to question several MKs from Labor, Yisrael Ba'aliya, and possibly the Likud. but at this stage none is expected to be questioned under caudon. Among those likely to be questioned are Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky and Immigration and Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein, both from Yisrael Ba'aliya, who apparently

Landver from Labor who apparently introduced Ben-Ari to Zvilli. Landver admitted yesterday that she had arranged a meeting between Ben-Ari and Ehud Barak, before he became Labor chairman. Landver says that she had heard

Ben-Ari was a rich man and that

she therefore had gone to him to

accepted funds from Ben-Ari for a

non-political immigrants' organiza-

tion they were involved in, and Sofa

solicit a contribution for a large children's event held under the auspices of the Soviet Immigrants Association, which she headed.

She said the event "was conceived to combat the awful stigma attached to Russian-speaking immigrants. I went to Lemer at my own initiative, and found a



Nissim Zvilli

highly intelligent, cultured man, and he graciously and very willingly wrote out a check for us, I urged Barak 10 meet him and ask him to continue contributing to

our cause and Barak indeed mei

him at my request." Landver said it never occurred to her that there was ever anything tainted about Ben-Ari and that he himself had not asked to meet her nor did he ask for anything in

Avigdor Kahalani told reporters vesterday that politicians knew that Ben-Ari was rich, but did not check the source of his wealth.

"But I don't think they deliberately sinned by accepting money for this or that organization. We must see whether everything was done legally, but I don't think that political figures worked deliberately in cooperation with Lemet. Kahalani said.

Sharansky told Israel Radio he wanted to find the truth behind Ben-Ari as soon as possible. "I have said repeatedly that Yisrael Ba'aliya and Russian immigrants are more interested than anyone else in discovering the truth. I welcome the police investigation and l would personally be happy to cooperate with it in any way pos-

MK Moshe Shahal (Labor), former internal security minister, said it is possible that during the inquiry into the Ben-Ari case, the police will discover other possible incidents in which clements suspecied of involvement with international crime tried to anain political influence here.

Meanwhile, Ben-Ari appealed to Tel Aviv District Court yesterday against his remand for 13 days on Monday. He argued that he is being discriminated against compared to the other suspects in the case, who were released on bail. The court will hear the appeal next week.

Court to rule Sunday on Bar-On petitions

By BATSHEVA TSUR

Political and legal circles have gone into high gear in anticipation of Sunday's ruling by the High Court of Justice on whether the prime minister and justice minister should be indicted for their parts in the Bar-On Affair.

Five justices - Shlomo Levin, Eliezer Goldberg, Theodor Or, Yitzchak Zamir, and Dalia Domer - have been deliberating the matter since May 14, when a series of petitions came before them in the wake of the Rubinstein-Arbel report on the investigation into the affair. Court President Aharon Barak disqualified himself from sitting on the panel since he had been questioned by police in the investigation.

On Sunday, the justices will hand down their ruling on four petitions.

Two separate petitions - submit-ted by Meretz leader Yossi Sarid and by Labor MK Yona Yahav call for indictments against both the prime minister and justice minister, as recommended by a minority of the investigative team in the State Attorney's Office.

A third, by Labor MK Ophir Pines, requests an indictment against Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu alone, the first time in the state's history that such an indictment would be brought

against the premier. Another petition, submitted by the Movement for Quality Government, asks that Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi be removed from office "for failing to act according to accepted

norms" of public behavior. The court also will give its reasons for turning down - during its marathon session on the petitions a month ago - requests from Sarid and Yahav to make public the minority recommendations in the report and the recommendations of the police investigative team calling for indictments all

In the Justice Ministry, officials expressed the opinion that the court would uphold the position of the prosecution that Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein's decision not to prosecute

Netanyahu and Hanegbi, for lack of prima facie evidence, was "rea-

A ministry spokesman also said there were "not yet" further developments with regard to the investigation into the part played in the affair by Avigdor Lieberman. director-general of the Prime Minister's Office. The Rubinstein-Arbel report recommended additional investigations with regard to his role.

The spate of petitions was touched off after the report found grounds for prosecuting only the fourth key figure in the Bar-On Affair, Shas MK Aryeh Deri. He was allegedly behind a deal to general in order to win a plea-bargain in his ongoing fraud and bribery case.

While the legal means of further indictments were being explored in court, Deri supporters through-out the country began vociferous demonstrations, charging that the MK had been the victim of ethnic discrimination - demonstrations which reached even the courtyard of the Supreme Court.

A petition calling on Rubinstein to withdraw the indictment also was circulated, but later with-

Meanwhile, Deri appealed to Rubinstein to postpone the ongo-ing bearings in his fraud and bribery case so that these would not be influenced by the allegations levelled against him in the report. Rubinstein rejected the

For his part, Netanyahu declared that his non-culpability had been vindicated by the report.

At the same time, a grass-roots movement collected some 60,000 signatures calling for a judicial commission of inquiry into the affair. The High Court, however, turned down a petition requesting an order for such a commission. The events of the past few

months have had concrete effects on the activities of the Justice Ministry, where many issues have been put on hold pending the court decisions. These include the future of Hanegbi - or his recently acquitted predecessor, Ya'acov Ne'eman - as minister.

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One Wall, one people

reenacting the thrice-yearly pilgrimage to the Temple that stood there 2,000 years ago. Among the dozens of minyanim which gathered there to pray and celebrate was a small group of Conservative and Reform Jews.

They tried to conduct a service in a corner of the large plaza, far away from the Wall, where they could be as unobtrusive as possible. It ended with the group being escorted away by police, who were afraid they could not protect this Jewish service from a mob of hundreds of haredim shouting "Nazis," spitting, and throw-

As the group of Jews was led away to a safer spot to continue their service, they were pelted with garbage from the windows of Yeshivat Porat Yosef, one of the most prestigious yeshivot in Israel.

A few haredim tried to defend the non-Orthodox Jews, shouting back that it was wrong to call fellow Jews "Nazis."

Incidents such as this are always followed by haredi protestations that the secular world singles out their extremists, that violence cannot be condoned, but what can be expected in response to "provocative" behavior.

Many baredim are no doubt disgusted, or at least taken aback, by such batred shown to fellow Jews who had come to pray. True, every community bas its extremists. But the test of a community is oot whether it bas extremism, but whether such extremism is accepted by the wider community, and how its leaders respood.

By any of these measures, it is no looger possible for the haredim to dismiss such actions as unreflective of the larger community. A resounding silence emanates from the beads of yesbivot whose studeots engaged in such atroc-

Haredi politicians not only reject the existence of a problem, but are part of the problem themselves. In response to the rioting, Deputy Jerusalem Mayor Haim Miller (Agudat Israel) said that "the very fact that Conservative Jews, who symbolize the destruction of the Jewish people, came to the place that is holiest to the Jewish people is a provocation. They have no reason to be in this place."

It is hard to know what is more obscene: the sight of hordes of yeshiva students, brimming with hatred at their fellow Jews and calling them Nazis, or leaders such as Miller who, far from condemning it, add to the incitement

It is now 30 years since the beady days wheo yeshiva students danced with the paratroopers who had liberated the Western Wall and the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem's Old City. Now, no less than the deputy mayor of Jerusalem has the gall to publicly state that oon-Orthodox being beld to complicity.

Sir, - Thank you for sharing with

your readers A.M. Rosenthal's arti-

cle on Minister Natan Sharansky's

"Brave, clear voice of Israel

abroad" (June 6). Mr. Sharansky is

indeed a heroic, perspicacious indi-

vidual. His sense of humor more

than compeosates for bis apparent

difficulties with percentages (10

percent, etc.). We are fortunate to

have Sharansky in the government.

DOMINICAN TRADITION

Alfonso Lockward's response to

Stuart Eizenstat (Leners, May 23)

is a very valid one. From personal

experience I know the Dominican

Republic was a life-saving haven

for many Jews who were fleeing

were forced to flee Luxembourg at

the outbreak of the war and, were it

not for the humanity of the policy

of the Dominican Republic, they

would never have survived. They

were helped with visas to Lisbon

and from there were able to fly to

the Dominican Republic to settle in

Sosia, which the government of

the Dominican Republic generous-

ly provided to them and many

TRUTH

Sir, - In my opinion, Shmuel

Schnitzer ("Silences and those who

shout 'Beware," May 16) really

deserved the Israel Prize for warning

us of the dangers of AIDS both to the

Ethiopian and the general communi-

ties. The action taken to "protect" the

Ethiopians is very similar to our call-

ing the Oslo suicide process a "peace

process." When we wake up we will

have to fight for peace and security.

and acted on, not covered up.

LOUIS FISCH

Truth should be acknowledged

BATYA BOROWSKI

thousands of other Jews.

Jerusalem.

Jerusalem.

My uncle, his wife and two sons

Nazi persecution.

Sir. - Dominican Ambassador

MOSHE BERLIN

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WHITTINGEHAME

REMEMBERED

Sir, - It was with great sadness that

I learned from your report of May 23

about the sale of Whittingehame

House, the property of the Balfour

family in East Lothian. Looking at

the picture of the magnificent manor

house evokes nostalgic thoughts and

It was just before the beginning of

World War II that I had the great

good fortune to find refuge from Hitler's Germany in those peaceful

grounds. It was there that L as a boy

of 14, was taught the "English way

of life," and it was there that I met

the girl who was to become my

wife and the mother of my children.

Fondly I remember the loving care

lavished upon us by the late Lord

and Lady Traprain, the parents of the present Earl of Balfour, who

remembered the birthday of each

one of the many children by giving

us great parties, followed by out-

ings. Whittingehame House was

essentially a farm school, but we

also attended classes in civic sub-

jects tutored by a most remarkable

staff of teachers. In Whittingehame,

many of us completed an education

The Jerusalem Post invites readers

to send letters to the Editor, who will

be pleased to consider them for publication. Letters which do not carry

the writer's full name and address

cannot be considered. A fax oum-

ber alone is insufficient, as is an

electronic mail address. A writer's

identity will be withheld from publi-

cation if, in the Editor's view, this is

warranted by special circumstances.

Please be brief. The Editor retains

the right to shorten letters. Only a

selection can be published and none

individually acknowledged. Letters

not accepted for publication will be

returned only upon request and

inclusion of a self-addressed

stamped envelope.

MORDECHAI RON

(formerly Max Froehlich)

that was denied us by the Nazis.

Neot Mordechai.

efore dawn on Shavuot thousands of Jews have "no reason" to be at the Wall, and Jews streamed toward the Western Wall, they should not be surprised if their very presence provokes riots.

If anyone bas "no reason" to be where he is, it is Miller, who as a representative of the city of Jerusalem, cannot treat a sizable portion of world Jewry as illegitimate.

Prime Minister Bioyamin Netanyahu, Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert and other leaders cannot let such statements stand. The Western Wall is not a private preserve of ooe branch of the Jewish people, particularly a branch that does not fully accept the legitimacy of the Jewish state in which it lives and flourishes. Nor can public officials be allowed to accuse entire Jewish communities of "destroying" the Jewisb people, without a word of

Evidently, the tendeocy of power to corrupt is not limited to the realm of politics. The very same communities who bave suffered such persecurion, theo slaughter at the hands of the Nazis, seek to impose their will on fellow Jews the moment the opportunity is given.

Rather than sit down and work out how communities with differing practices can share a place that is boly to all of them, the haredim treat Conservative and Reform Jews as mortal enemies. Deputy Health Minister Sblomo Benizri (Sbas) walked out of a meeting of the ministerial committee on Diaspora affairs rather than sit in the same room with Conservative and

It is the expression of vicious hatred by some haredim for oon-Orthodox Jews that turns so many people away from Judaism, exacerbating the very divisions that the baredim say is motivating their hatred.

If necessary, the police must enforce the right of all Jews to pray at the Western Wall, while ensuring that all communities show respect for the others.

Fundamentally, however, this is less a test of the rule of law than of the soul of the baredi community itself. The spiritual leaders of the baredim, unless they speak out for themselves, are letting young bullies who grotesquely distort the face of Judaism speak for them.

According to tradition, the Jewish people were punished with the destruction of the Temple and two thousand years of exile for one grievous sin: baseless hatred.

Surely, the batred that was shown against Jews at the Western Wall on Shavuot, of all places and times, does not reflect the views of the great rabbis of the haredim. But so far, their leadership is failing the most basic test posed by extremism: to forthrightly condemn and provide an alternative example. As is the case in other spheres, those who give a green light to extremism should be prepared to bear the burden of

COURAGEOUS ARTICLE

Sir, - I was pleasantly surprised

by Susan Hattis Rolef's column of

May 20, "Too quick to judge oth-

ers." She had the courage to say

what most of us are thinking. It is

time that all of us, leftists especially,

stop listening to the bombast of

Peres. Beilin and Ramon, and face

the facts, even if they are unpleas-

ant. The biased piece of propaganda

presented as an investigative report

by Michael Karpin is a case in point.

now that someone like Ms. Rolef,

whose credeotials as a respected

leftist are impeccable, bas dis-

played the integrity to suggest that

the left is oot blameless, there will

be some serious soul-searching by

our political leaders which may

lead to an easing of hostility and

TECHNOLOGICAL

EDUCATION

Sir, - On behalf of Amit Women,

formerly American Mizrahi

error which appeared in "Amal

schools pilot a new course," (May

4). The Amit network is not affili-

ated with any other organization. We applaud the educational work

done by Amal, founded in 1949. However, Beit Tze'irot Mizrahi in

Jerusalem (today Amit Dror High

School) was founded in 1933, well

before the establishment of the

Iewish State, and was the first-ever

vocational high school in Eretz

Yisrael Indeed, American Mizrahi

Women established three other

Today, Amit is the only govern-ment-appointed network for reli-

gious secondary technological

education in Israel. We also sup-

port youth villages, children's

schools prior to 1948.

throughout the country.

Jerusalem.

Women, I would like to correct an

ZVI REICH

acrimooy in the land.

Jerusalem.

It is not too much to bope that

Judaism?

The 'to be or not to be' problem

ome Likud supporters are still writing and speaking as if the Israeli nation remained firmly opposed to the establishment of a Palestinian state side by side with Israel.

· This is totally erroneous. During the past year there has been a steady convergence of Israeli opinion toward the view recently expressed by Henry Kissioger and myself: Each of us has written that Palestioian statehood in the near future may be virtually inevitable.

Kissinger believes that prime minister Menachem Begin contributed to this inevitability by supporting the Camp David accords in 1979.

When Begio, at the peak of his power and influence, advocated the "withdrawal of the Israeli military and civilian administratioo io the West Bank and Gaza" together with recognition of "the legitimate rights and just demands of the Palestinian people," he created an ideological and tactical vacuum that was clearly not going to be filled by Egypt or Syria or

It could only be filled by the nation which, in recent years, has grown to some 2 million inhabitants, and which has won an overwbelmingly broad international recognition of its successor status.

Paradoxically, the Zionist experience plays a large role in defining the current Palestinian strategy. Israel's independence declara-

tion in May 1948 was a lonely act. Israelis did not seek the assent of their previous British rulers for that audacious decision. Nor had the American founders asked King George III if he would agree to their separation from the American Union in 1776.

"Previous rulers" have not had much influence on nationalists

ABBA EBAN

seeking to break away from tradinonal restraints.

My first address to the UN was delivered on May 1, 1948. My argument was that the Jewish state already existed. It had its own oational forces, allegedly clandestine, but well publicized in the world. It had its own anthem, flag, language, trade union organization and diplomatic representa-

All it lacked was international recognition, and this flourished Netanyahu is himself groping his way toward the same conclusion. He bas mentioned Andorra, which is an excessively niggardly metaphor for some 2 million nationally conscious Palestinians; but Andorra is a sovereign member of the UN with voting rights equal to those of the US.

The conclusioo should be that the best way to deal with inevitability is to stop evading it, and to base Israeli policies on the likelihood that it will come to

Israel's best course is to base its policies on the likelihood that Palestinian independence will come to pass

prodigiously on May 14 with the drama of recognition by the US and the Soviet Union.

THE Palestinians may well consider themselves to be in a similar condition today. More force would be needed to prevent their independence than to facilitate it. It is not even likely that such force would be applied.

In recent public opinion surveys, 40 percent of Israelis have recorded that Palestinian independence is tolerable, and 70 percent have said that it is inevitable. Newly elected Labor leader, former general Ehud Barak, has supported the notion of self-determination for the Palestinians. He is now leading the polls. It is only a question of short time before opinlon overtakes action.

Leading figures in the Likud have begun to express a similar realism. Prime Minister

In any case, the complex outstanding issues affecting Palestinian statehood would remain to be solved. These include boundary delineation, regional cooperation, the limitations imposed by mutual security, the problem of the holy places (in which there is a Jordanian interest) and water resources. But these issues may not be peacefully reached unless the issue of Palestinian independence - the

the first ageoda item. The idea that Jordan .would obstruct a settlement based on Palestinian statehood was never valid, and is not so today. All recent Jordanian statements follow the line of King Hussein's enlightened vision of leaving the Palestinian nation to its own decisions, in the sure knowledge that the Jordanian consensus is greatly

"to be or not to be" problem - is

influenced by inexorable emo-tional and demographic realities. In my recent interview with the Palestinian leader he also took a legalistic view, asserting only that the nature of the Palestinian state should be negotiated at the stage of permanent status. This was an

unusually reticent reaction; but

the writing is clear on the wall. It is already evident that Syria would not oppose a Palestinian independence decision, and might even use it to justify a decision by Damascus to join the peace process. President Assad must be the only living world leader who has neverbeen to Washington or any other of the major world capitals.

There is no evidence whatever that the US would oppose the emergence of Palestinian statehood. Washington is more likely to sanction any settlement that Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia and Saudi Arabia would accept, especially if there is an atmosphere of Israeli acquiescence, as there well might be.

In an address to the Council of Europe in 1967, and on other occasions, I drew attention to the need of an integrative as against a separatist approach to the structural relationships between Israel, Jordan and the nascent Palestinian state.

Distances are too small, populations too intertwined, the opportunities of cooperation too bright for the exercising of sovereignty in a austerely separatist spirit.

The European Union is still the only model for a system in which sovereignty is both respected and transcended. It may hold the secret for a world in which these conflicting ideas will achieve their ultimate harmony.

The writer is a former foreign

Reducing the friction in the air

TN the short term, the key to peaceful coexistence between Israel's secular and religious communities lies in reducing the friction between them.

In this week's Shavuot rampage by a group of zealous, selfappointed "defenders of the faith" at the Western Wall, the pressure that is always there, bubbliog under the surface, boiled over in scenes of ugly violence that any thinking Jew, including the most

observant, can only condemn. Experience in conflict management shows that political and ideological tensions are rarely eased by attacking the central issues head-on. Rather, it is small, incremental steps aimed at reducing involuntary interaction between opposing groups that will, in the end, lead to tolerant coexistence.

Seen in this context, the government's recent decisions to privatize El Al and eliminate the compulsory TV and radio fees are important steps toward achieving a cease-fire on two fronts of the raging religious-secular battle-

Many years ago, the religious parties in the government coalition insisted that since El Al is owned by the state, there should be no flights on Sbabbat. El Al's management, as well as the secular parties, resisted, claiming that this was a form of religious coercion, and would also cost the company millions of dollars in lost гечелие.

However, the religious community saw the coercion as coming from the opposite direction, in which public firms operating oo Shabbat were, in effect, forcing **GERALD M. STEINBERG**

religious citizens to participate in the violation of one of the central tenets of Jewish law. The religious parties held firm,

and El Al is still grounded on Shabbat Now, if El Al is privatized, its

owners, and not the public at large, will be responsible for its activities. If the new owners

Many people with televisions have little interest in the offerings of Channel 1, just as drivers and passengers may prefer to listen to one of the private radio stations.

But the draconian state can invade the privacy of its citizens' homes, remove the TV sets, and force the citizeos to pay the fec. Here again, religious Israelis

Privatizing El Al and abolishing TV and radio license fees can contribute to a secular-religious cease-fire

decide to operate on Shabbat, or to end the policy of serving only kosher meals, any shareholder who disapproves will be free to sell his (or her) shares, or to vote to change the management,

If these policies are successful and El Al increases ticket sales, this has no impact on public policy. By the same token, if the firm

loses a substantial number of clients as a result of becoming just like any other airline, this would also not be a public policy issue. Either way, the impact of one of the many sources of friction between the religious and secular

Turning to the TV licensing fee, under current policies all citizens with televisions have been forced to pay a special tax to support the Israel Broadcasting Authority (Channel 1). The state radio system is supported by a similar tax

communities will weaken.

have an extra reason to resent

MUCH of the budget collected from the fees goes to programs that are broadcast on Shabbat, and a significant portion of the public has never seen Yoman Hashavua (the weekly newsmagazine), the Friday night movie, or Shabbat afternoon football. In most cases, these offerings are not even rebroadcast during the week, so that we can see what our fees are being spent on,

By eliminating the license fees completely, the salience of another source of coercion and friction between the religious and secular communities will be reduced. (In addition, this annoying use of intrusive police power will stop; even without the religious-secular dimension, ending this policy in itself is important to the development of our democracy.)

state subsidies for the IBA, so that the religious community's taxes (or, for that matter, any other group's) are not used to pay for services they do not receive and do not want, and in which they have no say. While extremely important in

The next step is to end blanket

and of themselves in reducing the. level of friction between the state and its diverse citizens, these reforms would constitute only the first steps in what has to be a process of disengagement.

There must be a similar process with respect to the coercive policies regardiog regulation of marriage and divorce, and other aspects of personal status that are controlled by the state. In the long term, the oature of the secular-religious conflict has to change.

It would, admittedly, be hard to find a way to divide up the Western Wall between different Jewish streams, although clearly violence cannot be allowed to pre-

But dialogue and cooperation must increase, eoabling the development of a modern and viable state for the Jews."

Ultimately, the Jewish people are still too few in oumber and too isolated to allow for deep divisions to remain.

abolition of the TV tax are small but important steps in the process. of lowering tension in an area where there is still far too much.

Strategic Studies, Bar-Ilan

POSTSCRIPTS

GREAT MOMENTS in crime: A mugger recently committed the mother of all blunders: he (allegedly) robbed a sweet little old lady who bappeos to be the mother of Vincent "The Chin" Gigante, the reputed head of New York's Genovese Mafia family.

Willie King, 37, brazenly talked Yolanda "Mama" homes and specialized schools stalked RÓBIN KAHN, Gigante, 94, as she was walking Amit Israel Chair on the arm of her other son, the Rev. Louis "The Other Soo"

Gigante, a Catholic priest. As Mrs. Gigante was about to enter her home. King snatched her wallet and ran. Police nabbed him, however,

and one cop broke the bad news. You just robbed the mother of the biggest mob chieftain in New York," he said.

The policeman later related that when King heard that, "he just slumped down into the back seat of the radio car. He had a stunned, resigned look on his face, sort of

saying, 'How could I be so stu-Meanwhile, out in Billerica,

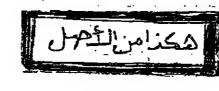
Mass., three dimwit teenagers recorded themselves ransacking a house and bragging about the credit cards and other goods they stole - including the video cam-

They weren't the sharpest tools in the shed," said a police iospector. "It's kind of unbeliev-

The trio were suspected of the

robbery because they had an ongoing feud with the son of the homeowners. A couple of hours later, police pulled them. over and found a camcorder in their car. The teeos at first denied owning the camera ("Gee, how did this get here?").

They said [on the tape], 'I' bope police don't get hold of this tape because we confessed to everything," a policeman



COU

The privatization of El Al and

The writer is a senior researcher at the Begin-Sadat Center for University.

erusalem Post

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demographic realities

scent interview with the

a leader he also took a

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6 to join the peace process.

Assad must be the only

orid leader who has never

Washington or any other of

is no evidence whatever

r US would oppose the

ace of Palestinian state.

Vashington is more likely

tion any settlement that

Jordan, Morecco, Tunisa

aidi. Arabia would accent

dly, if there is an atmos-

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Slower, but surer

s things are, chances of progressiog on the Israeli-Palestinian track of the peace process are slim - unless the two sides can make a radical departure and agree to negotiate a new interim agreement, one whose parameters differ from those of Oslo 2,

The attempt to overcome the current impasse by speeding up the negotiations over final-status issues is doomed to failure. This is because the positions of the protagonists are so far apart as to be well-nigh unbridgeable.

Polls show that even the very dovish Beilio-Abu Mazen understandings failed to elicit the backing of a majority of Palestinians.

On the other hand, growing support within the Israeli political leadership in favor of skipping the remaining phases of Oslo and moving on to oegotiacons over the final status issues indicates an increased awareness that Oslo is a bad agreement for Israel.

Oslo's main disadvantage is that it requires Israel to divest itself of assets, primarily territorial, in the interim period. This deprives it of bargaining chips in the last stage of negotiations, when the most difficult issues of dispute come onto the table.

With the likelihood of concluding a final status agreement successfully very low, and with apprehensions over implementing the Oslo track growing, Israel would be best advised to think in terms of a new interim agreement with the Palestinian Authority.

After all, a prolonged negodat-ing stalemate is hardly conducive either to Israeli interests or to Palestinian ones.

Israel may be in a better posi-tion than the Palestinians to live with a freeze in the peace process; but every Israeli government has understood the importance of progress for maintaining social cohesion. A lack of such cohesion among Israelis would make it very difficult to mobilize society for the effort required to sustain a future military encounter should the peace process fail.

Signs of progress in the negotiations are also very desirable in the domestic political arena: How else to show the Israeli electorate in 2000 that the present government did make a serious attempt to satisfy Palestinian aspirations?

One must also not forget that a stalled process poses difficuloes for Israel in the international arena, eveo in the US, our best friend: The expectations of fast progress engendered and widely.

m beginning to understand what bappened to the kib-

They were the glory of the

Zionist movement. They created a social framework that became

famous throughout the world.

They put the lofty ideas of jus-

oce and social equality ioto prac-

They were pioneers, they

were literate, they were pilots

and reconoaissance soldiers.

Their modest ways, their unas-

suming attire, the respect they

showed everyone were a shin-

ing educational example to gen-

And then, almost by the way,

while the sprinklers were still

rotating in the fields, as if some

oasty virus had gotten hold of it.

The IDF no longer needed kib-

butz guards to ensure secure bor-

ders. Agriculture lost its allure.

Marxism had become some-

thing to mock. The Histadrut went

bankrupt. Israel became a capital-

And the klbbutzniks stayed

behind, with their ideals and their

They built plastics factories,

Today they eke out a living, look

"I'm a kibbutznik, actually -

for an alternative ideology, and

would you believe it?" is how they

introduce themselves, smiling

No one can deprive them of

their illustrious past; but they

know the traio bas passed them

by, left them waiting at the station.

how it all came about, how their

dream was snatched from them,

who stole the country from them,

they're blamed for their elitism.

They hear that everything they did

was oo more than patronage by an

And as they stand and wonder

opened guest houses and got

debts. What could they do?

mixed up in check-bouncing.

apologize for their existence.

their world crumbled.

The pioneer era ended.

Lbutzniks.

erations.

ist couotry.

awkwardly.

EFRAIM INBAR

led government means that any lack of progress by the Netanyahu government is almost always blamed on Israel.

Despite the many prevailing doubts over Yasser Arafat's credibility and intentions, Israel has an interest in his continued policiog of the areas under his jurisdiction, simply because the other alternatives - chaos in the territories or the IDF's return to the Palestinian

Moving on to final status talks is doomed to failure,

We need a new

interim agreement

cities - are that much less attrac-

The PA, for its part, is also interested in cootinning the process - accepting Israeli concessions - because it draws its legitimacy from expanding its territory and improving the condidons of the people under its con-

Concluding a new interim agreement with a Likud-led government might be especially attractive to the authority, since it would strengthen the trend in Israel toward compromise with the Palestinians.

Israel's annoying insistence on reciprocity and intermittent pressure on the PA could be an additional argument convincing Arafat that a new interim agreement is the best option for moving

A FURTHER interim agreement is appealing because the concessions it demands from each side are not as great as those a fioal settlemeot might require. Such an agreement in effect signals "reduced-rate" progress.

A new interim agreement would delay having to deal with thorny issues like Jerusalem, refugees and the establishment of a Palestinian state in Judea and Samaria; it would also have the effect of distancing the parties from the Oslo agreements.

It would achieve another important objective: allowing the sides to feel out each other's intentions more thoroughly and continue the essential learning process.

Having said that, a new interim promoted by the previous, Labor- agreement would be conditional

It just isn't my

country any more

YOSEF LAPID

I can understand why their

bearts are broken. I feel with them

in their situation, because I'm

ON the surface, I belong to the

camp that conquered them, part of

the efficient, cruel capitalisoc

I understand why

the kibbutzniks'

hearts are broken.

Mine is

breaking too

world; the technological, electroo-

ic. Western Israel, the Israel of

mulomedia, of the Internet, of the

But I also belong to a free, secular, enlightened, liberal Israel, a

country that cares about those who

can't feod for themselves. A sane

country, striving for peace with its

neighbors. A country whose

For a while it seemed that these

characteristics overlapped, that

strength lies in its quality.

this was truly my country.

but that isn't true of Jerusalem.

century. It was a curiosity.

it is taking over our lives.

shape and essence.

"smart card."

beginning to get that way, too.

of Judaism

on Israel's willingness to make the kind of concessions the PA could portray as significant enough to justify a deviation from

This would mean Israel having to come up with a menu of measures that are important to the Palestinians - particularly symbolically and economically - but that do not exact a strategic price from us.

Offering greater sovereignty in Gaza is one possibility. Israel might also, for example, have to consider dismantling an isolated Jewish settlement, one whose chances of remaining under Israeli sovereignty in any final agreement are extremely slim.

In any case, we would have to enter the negotiations for a new interim agreement with a clear vision of our objectives insofar as the map of the state's future borders is concerned. In this connection and after several decades of ambiguity, the current high-level discussions over the future map of Israel are very welcome indeed.

Since it is both desirable and possible to achieve strategic coordination with the US on the goals of an interim agreement, it might be wise to induce the Americans to place it on the agenda. Diplomatic back channels could be useful for sounding out the commitment and seriousness of the parties.

In the domestic arena, the inter-im agreement would be perceived as the product of this government's diplomatic efforts. In turn, the government's association with the agreement would help mobilize support for its implementa-

Finally, an interim agreement has educational value. It underscores the complexity of the issues at stake, and the incremental approach needed to navigate through them.

The reason the "New Middle East" vision was so harmful was because it fostered unrealistic expectations at home and abroad, when what was needed was a large dose of realism.

A new interim agreement may constitute progress of a less dramade kind than some observers might wish; but it exemplifies exactly the type of sober, realisoc advancement that is necessary if we are to have peace with the Palestinians.

The writer is associate professor of political science and director of the Begin-Sadat (BESA) Center for Strategic Studies at Bar-Ilan

Wall. Our soccer team leaves for Moscow blessed by the spirit of the Lubavitcher Rebbe. Rabbi

Kadourie's good luck charms

Fanatics dictate government

The holders of the fort have

policy, sever us from Diaspora

Jewry, bring us closer to the fun-

gained poliocal power and, with

it, self-confidence. They see me as

an alien implant, a profaner of the

A Kafkaesque exchange: "Do

"Do you confess to being edu-

But they don't hear me any

more. They are already busy with

another defendant. I try to disen-

tangle myself, but my hands are

behind my back, tied with tefillin

ontegrating. I am on the platform,

and the train is leaving the station,

The author is editorial writer for

I had a country ooce, but it's dis-

you confess to being Ashkenazi?"

A member of the elite?"

At this point I crack.

damentalist internacional.

Sacred Name.

Yes, sir."

"I confess."

'Secular?"

without me.

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"I confess."

cated?

determine the fate of poliocians.



From Madrid to Copenhagen

Te met in a small, dark, obscure bar in a side street far from the King's Palace in Madrid, where the historic Middle East peace conference bad just got under way.

It was November 1991, and we were both members of our respecdve countries' delegations - he, a prominent Arab personality whom I bad known well during one of my past functions.

In the imposing hall of the palace, the first steps of the peace process were being taken in a near-freezing political climate. But in the darkness of the bar, out conversation was warm and animated, and the words of my Arab

friend still echo in my mind. From the first days of your existence as a state till now," he said, "we in the Arab world were convinced that Israel is a passing phenomenon, and that, like the Crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem in the Middle Ages, you will even-

tually disappear from our midst. "We knew that we would have to 'help' the process by waging war after war against you to weaken you, but in ome, even if it took 100 years, Israel would be wiped

off the face of the map. "The real reason we agreed to come to Madrid is that we realized that this dream of ours was not going to be fulfilled, that Israel was here to stay, a permanent fixture in the Middle East, and that we would

have to come to terms with it. "We have therefore made a strategic decision to make peace with you - but our peace has a price which you will have to pay if you want to be accepted by us."
Since those days in Madrid, I have travelled extensively in the Arab world and met with numerous Arab personalities.

The conversations followed a set pattern - curiosity, matched by an unbelievable ignorance about Israel, and a firm commitment to

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DAVID KIMCHE

"The Arab-Israeli conflict must end. We all need peace," is a statement I have heard time and again from my Arab interlocutors.

For years in Israel peace was seen as an unattainable dream. We yearned for it, sang songs about it and prayed for it, but we had no

Arab partner for peace.

ments," leading intellectuals from Egypt, Jordan, the Palesonian territories and Israel convened last January in Copenhagen and founded the "International Alliance for Arab-Israeli Peace."

The meeting was unique in a number of ways: This was the first time a people-to-people organiza-

tion bringing together Israelis, Now the shoe is on the other Palestinians, Jordaoians, and

In a people-to-people organization, Arabs and Israelis far ahead of their governments are pushing for peace

foot. Now it is the Arabs who are claiming to be the protagonists of peace, who are saying that Israel does not want peace, or that it is not willing to pay an acceptable price for it.

In the words of Abd el-Monem Said Aly, director of the prestigious Research Institute of Cairo's Al-Ahram, "You are all in favor of peace, but you have to sacrifice something for it."

That "something" is the crux of the matter. Exactly how much do we have to sacrifice? When does the price become 100 high, even for that most precious commodity of all, peace?

The Arab leaders are demanding too much, and our government is offering too little, and the result is that hopes for peace are fading. Peace is becoming a mirage receding over the horizon.

YET the Arab and Israeli peoples have come to realize that peace is, after all, attainable, despite all the difficuloes. They are far ahead of their governments.

Under the slogan "Peace is too

important to be left to govern-

Egyptians had been established with one common political mani-festo, The Copenhagen Copenhagen Declaration.

Moreover, its founding members reflected a wide range of political allegiances. The Israeli delegation included

four MKs, two of them supporting the government, as well as an Orthodox rabbi, a leading businessman, authors and academics. The Palestinian delegation was

even more surprising, comprising a Hamas representative, a member of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, as well as the general secretary of Fatah.

The Egypoans included a professor from Al-Azhar, as well as one of the founders of the Marxist party who had, in the past, led the opposition to peace with Israel; the Jordanians had ex-ministers and the former commander of the air force on their team.

The Copenhagen convention raised a storm of protest in Egypt and, to a lesser extent, in Jordan. Dozens of articles were written for and against Copenhagen. The diehard opponents of peace

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of treason, of breaking the taboo against normalization. Lutfi el-Khouli, one of the most

accused the "Copenhagen Arabs"

outstanding writers and political thinkers in the entire Arab world, who headed the Egyptian delegation, was singled out particularly. Yet, despite these attacks, the

Alliance took root and is gaining momentum. Monitoring committees have been established, and held their first meetings in Jerusalem recently. People-topeople activities have been planned. Last week, a first-ever panel of

Egyptians, a Jordanian, Palesonian, and an Israeli discussed the peace process before an audience of several hundred in Tel Aviv; that discussion will be repeated before audiences in Ramallah, Amman, and Cairo.

A giant peace congress under Alliance auspices and encompassing peace movements from the four peoples is being planned to take place in Israel in the fall. In Egypt, a new weekly dedicated to peace with Israel has been launched under the impact of the Copenhagen debate.

Copenhagen reflects the determination of a growing number of people, Israelis and Arabs, not to let the opportunity for peace slip by.

The onus is particularly on the government of Israel. For the first ome io our history, whether we have peace or not depends to a large extent on our own govern-

"Copenhagen Israelis" The intend to do everything possible to make sure that the government really does fulfill its election promises of achieving peace and security for its people.

The writer, a former director-general of the Foreign Ministry, is president of the Israel Council for Foreign Relations.

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But lately I've been feeling it LONDON slipping through my fingers. I've been seeing it change character, COURS \$449 Rt. 7 day car rental Air (Luy & Aur) I still feel at home in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem used to have an TUSNAD - Romania GLATT KOSHER 7 or 14 mts. Full board - Day trips \$750 799 Fil. Air Mountain scenery **TOTAL TRIP **TOTAL TRI AUSTRALIA MALTA Super Deal eccentric minority, a vestige of the ghettoes of Lodz and Casablanca, Sydney Melboume Rt. Air 5nt hotel**** sanctifying superstitions, fasting on strange days, locking its Transfers - Casino women up in the delivery room, Largest selection keeping its men in yeshivas, far GREER ODYSSEY Norwegian Czech & poland of tours away from reality, from the 20th Jordan 1 to 4 days Egypt 2 to 9 days Cruise Line ROOTS TOUR Roundtrip Air plus Today this curiosity has become Rhodes Rt.Air 3 nt fr. \$249 a vast, ever-expanding army. And Mykonos Int 1, \$599 Ehud Barak runs to the Western Moscow to 7 Day Cruise volga St. Petersburg Dubrovnik Rlair 6 nt it. 3499 : 12 LAND HOPPING 699 Vancouver/Vancouver river cruise Call the Experts: Michael, 02-6252777. PitAir 7 nt fr. 1862 trom \$599 Giovanna 03-5229625 Call your

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believe he could have caused this devastation. McVeigh's mother,

Mildred Frazer, read from a brief

statement. He was a loving son

and a happy child as he grew up.

He was a child any mother could

be proud of."

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US troops escort a vehicle carrying American citizens through Brazzaville on their way to the city's airport to be evacuated.

Cease-fire appears to hold in Congo

called by rival factions began taking hold in the capital yesterday, easing fighting that has left neighborhoods lined with rotting corpses.

French soldiers rescued more civilians from Brazzaville neighborhoods, where militia fighters - mostly teen-age boys with guns - roamed. Sporadic fighting flared despite the day-old truce.

"The heaviest fighting has stopped," French Ambassador Raymond Cesaire said yesterday morning. "I hope and believe the cease-fire will take hold."

Hours later, a French soldier was wounded in the knee from a stray bullet. Shooting picked up in intensity around the French Embassy at about 3 p.m., but there was none of the artillery fire or shelling that had rocked the capital overnight and on previous days.

Beijing and London locked horns Dickson.

yesterday over China's troop

deployment plans and Britain

decision to boycott part of the cer-

Britain flatly rejected Beijing's

request to admit more Chinese

troops to the colony before the for-

mal transfer ceremony at midnight

on June 30 so the People's

Liberation Army (PLA) could be

in position for the historic

agreeing to the deployment of the

There is no question of Britain

emony.

Government troops controlling the area near the embassy positioned themselves in a

BRAZZAVILLE (AP) — A cease-fire drainage ditch behind a line of mounted workers have been unable to assess the casuassault rifles.

President Pascal Lissouba and militia leader Gen. Denis Sassou-Nguesso announced their truce following seven days of clashes that broke out when Lissouba attempted to disarm Sassou-Nguesso's private Cobra militia.

The two men have been bitter rivals for years, and tensions have increased in the runup to July presidential elections that both plan to contest.

Lissouba, who defeated Sassou-Nguesso in 1992 elections, said he wanted to immobilize Sassou-Nguesso's men to prevent campaign violence. Sassou-Nguesso, the former military ruler, says Lissouba was trying to spark clashes so be could have an excuse to delay the vote and retaio power.

Combatants say the latest fighting has killed hundreds, mainly civilians, but aid

UK, China again lock horns on Hong Kong

"Britain is the sovereign power

and is responsible for the defense

of Hong Kong up to the last stroke

when China assumes its sovereign

responsibility." The clash deep-

ened a handover rift over British

Prime Minister Tony Blair's deci-

sion to boycott the latter half of

the grand handover ceremony

when Beijing will inaugurate an

unelected, post-handover legisla-

ture to replace the territory's cur-

of midnight on June 30 and that is

alty toll themselves.

WORLD NEWS

Journalists accompanying a French military convoy through the Cobra-held Mpila neigbborhood yesterday saw the body of a child apparently killed in cross-fire, blood from a head wound pooling near his school bag. A man lay dead in a doorway among the burned buildings and bullet-pocked walls - a looter,

The smell of decomposing bodies wafted through streets littered with spent cartridges, clothing, papers, appliances, furniture and other goods dropped or discarded by looters. A rebel militia commander, Roch Ipangue, offered a tour of the area near the Russian Embassy compound, where the French soldiers picked up about a dozen foreigners.

"We are ready to respect the cease-fire. We didn't shoot last night, but the other side are

Chris Patten.

China, infuriated by the last

In its place goes the Provisional

Legislature, a 60-member cham-

ber chosen by a hand-picked panel

of 400 pro-Beijing worthies in

Hong Kong and denounced by the

travesty of democracy.

minute changes, vowed to wipe

The plan to install the chamber the terms of a 1984 treaty, but rela-

promptly after the flag change, in tions plummeted to an all-time

the presence of international digni- low over mild democratic reforms

taries who came for the handover instigated by the British governor

celebration, put Blair and VIPs

from other countries that contest

the legiumacy of the provisional

Australia, however, dashed British hopes of a unified Western

stand by putting national interest

first and declining to join the United States and Britain in shun-

ning the post-midnight investiture

Frequent Sino-British disputes

have marred Hong Kong's 13-year transition to Chinese rule under

possibility was still far off.

down the military's warning.

tions of a coup, but some analysis yesterday said the

Deputy Prime Minister Tansu Ciller sought to play

"Everything is under control," Mrs. Ciller told jour-

nalists after meeting with Islamic Prime Minister

Necmettin Erbakan for four hours. "The solution is democracy ... to go to elections," she said.

In a rare briefing for journalists, the military on Wednesday declared that a violent Islamic uprising was

near and that it was prepared to use force to stop it.

"The Turkish armed forces is in a position to define a mission for itself under these circumstances ... and

consider the worst case scenario," said Gen. Fevzi

Turkeri, the chief of counter-intelligence at the General

"The basic principles of the Turkish republic cannot

ceremony.

Staff.

legislature in a diplomatic bind.

McVeigh jurors told to 'look in a coward's eye'

The defense used videotapes and

magazines to try to explain McVeigh's rage over the incident

McVeigh's parents testified on

"I still to this very day cannot

behalf of their son Wednesday.

Excursions

DENVER (AP) — A prosecutor asked jurors yesterday to "look into the eyes of a coward" and give Timothy McVeigh the death penalty for killing 168 people in the worst act of terrorism in US histo-

"Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, it's time. It's time for justice," prosecutor Beth Wilkinson said in her closing statement of the penal-ty phase. "This is the crime that the death penalty was designed for."

The same panel that convicted McVeigh of murder and conspiracy charges last week will decide whether he should die by injection or get life behind bars for the April 19, 1995, Oklahoma City bomb-ing. A decision for the death penalty must be unanimous.

Although all of the jurors told attorneys they could consider the death penalty. Colorado juries as a rule have been reluctant to impose the ultimate punishment. The state has five people on death row, among the lowest number in America and hasn't executed anybody since 1967.

Wilkinson said the 29-year-old Gulf War veteran acted out of a false, delusional sense of patriotism that led him to believe "it was his right to murder innocent men, women and children." The victims ranged from 4 months to 73 years

She said McVeigh "declared war on his fellow Americans" to avenge the deadly siege at Waco. Texas, exactly two years before the Oklahoma City bombing.

Wilkinson dismissed as "pathetic" the defense using McVeigh's anger over Waco in its case to soare him the death penalty.

Eighty-one people died in the fire that destroyed the Branch Davidian compound, which was surrounded by federal authorities, and the episode has become a rallying cry for anti-government and militia movements across the United States.

Cohen: 'Smaller is better' for **NATO**

BRUSSELS (AP) -- With NATO split over bow many new members to add, US Defense Secretary William Cohen is making the Clinton administration's case to the allies for limiting it initially to three. "Smaller is better," Cohen said in

an interview en route here from Washington. Yesterday, he attended a series of

meetings at NATO headquarters, his first as defense secretary. While the was on the agenda. Cohen and his fellow defense chiefs began by talking about relations with Russia and regional European security.

them out by dissolving the reformed Legislative Council returned in 1995 by one million The NATO defense ministers discussed prospects for Russian ratification of the START II nuclear arms treaty. Walter Slocombe, the US undersecretary of defense for policy, told reporters during a break in the talks that Cohen had explained why the US believes Russian has control territory's democratic lobby as a of its nuclear forces "despite some real concerns for the future."

The military considers itself the guardian of Turkish

secularism, and has been opposing efforts by Erbakan

to increase Islam's presence in Turkey.

"The soldiers are openly saying "We are coming,"
Sinan Yerlikaya, an official of the opposition
Republican People's Party of social democrats, told

The military has staged coups three times since 1960 but some think the military will give other scenarios a

"The military's patience has not run out yet com-

The government could now collapse and President

Suleyman Demirel would designate opposition leader

pletely," said Sedat Ergin, a well-informed columnist

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Coup alarm rises in Turkey ANKARA (AP) — A sharp warning by the military aimed at the Islamic government intensified prediction be changed, will not be changed," said Turkeri, insisting that Turkish law obliges the armed forces to protect

the nation.

reporters yesterday.

for the daily Hurriyet.

Mesut Yilmaz to form a new one.

We mourn, deeply with love, the passing of **LINA SPIRA**

rent elected body.

mother, grandmother and mother-in-law a gentle soul who gave of herself more than generously Felicia, Yoel and Bill Siegel

HONG KONG (Reuter) — With main PLA garrison in Hong Kong just 19 days left before Hong Kong reverts to Chinese rule, Foreign Office spokesman Bill

The unveiling of the tombstone of our beloved

PEARL FEIGLIN

will take place on Sunday, June 15 at Har Hamenuhot

We shall meet in the car park at the entrance to the main cemetery at 5.30 p.m.

Rochie Pushett, Ruth Medding and the whole family

ברוך דיין האמת

We mourn the untimely passing of our friend, neighbor and teacher HARAV PROFESSOR AVRAHAM KUSHELEVSKY

His wisdom, chesed and supreme modesty will be sorely missed

Erev Shavuot 5757 Kehilat Metar

On the first yahrzeit after the passing of my dear husband

Rabbi Dr. ANDREW SILBERFELD former Chief Librarian of the Ministry of Justice

we will hold a memorial service on Thursday, June 19, 1997 at Har Hamenuhot Cemetery. Givat Shaul, at 4 p.m.

We will meet at the main gate. His wife and friends

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drinkers beware. There may be grounds for concern brewing in the bottom of your cup of java. Unfiltered brews such as French

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have higher amounts of a substance

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Unfiltered coffee linked to cholesterol out of the crystals at the factory.

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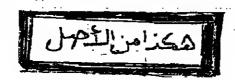
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The Jerusalem Post Friday, June 13, 1997

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Ingathering of the workers

NEWSinfocus

The government may be cracking down on illegal foreign workers with mass arrests and deportations. Larry Derfner meets foreigners in hiding.

onna (not her real name), a Ghanian who works illegally cleaning houses around the Dan Region, was walking near Tel Aviv's Shalom Tower on the Wednesday morning before last when she saw a group of black men being arrested.

"I saw my husband," she said. They were putting handcuffs on him. The Africans were struggling, and the men arresting them were shouting and pushing them into a

Donna brought her one-year-old daughter, who was crying, up to the arresting officers - inspectors for the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. "I pleaded with them not to take my husband because I cannot take care of my baby alone," she said.

But her husband, also a Ghanian housecleaner, and the others were driven off to a tent camp set up at Ramle's Ayalon Prison, for illegal workers bound for deportation.

Her husband tells Donna in his phone calls that he lives on "bread and tomatoes" at the camp, She is taking up a collection among her friends to raise the \$1,000 or so it will take to buy him a plane ticket back to Ghana,

Many illegals at Ayalon have been there for months without trial, waiting to raise the plane fare home, said Yafit Vaisbuch, who has defended a number of foreign workers, mainly Romanians, as a court-appointed attorney. They are being held in administrative detention, and I'm sorry to say that it is legal," she

Israel is prepared to pay for the laborers' plane tickets bome, Vaisbuch explained, but this takes many months of bureaucratic arrangements, so the workers are left either to come up with the money themselves or to languish in a tent

Government officials have warned that deportations of illegal foreign workers were about to be stepped up to 500 a month, and the campaign appears to have begun. African workers say the pressure cooled off this past week, but the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs told Ha'aret: last Friday that 273 foreign illegals had been arrested and served with deportation orders in the previous two weeks.

They were picked up on their way to carch buses to work in the mornings, mainly around the old Tel Aviv Central Bus Station, where Donna and many tens of thousands of other foreign workers, legal and illegal, live. The arrests were carried out by

plainclothes ministry inspectors in unmarked cars, accompanied by

Only African workers were interviewed for this story, but Romanians, Turks, South Americans and other nationals were also caught

AFRICAN prisoners have told community members that brutal methods, including the use of Mace and hand-held electric stun devices, were sometimes used in the arrests, and that food is scarce and conditions are extremely harsh at the Ayalon tent

As much as possible, they are staying inside their apartments, even if it means missing work, for fear of being picked up. They say their countries' embassies have not been able to do anything to protect

Asked to discuss the arrest cam-mign, the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs spokesman's office said: "We do not wish to be interviewed on this matter at this time."

But during a tour of south Tel Aviv last summer, Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai was quoted as saying. "There is a disturbing phenomenon in the poor neighborhoods of Tel Aviv. You go into some of them, and you think you're in Africa instead of the State

At the time, Yishai recommended setting up a transit camp near Ben-Gurion Airport as an easy collection point from which the illegals could e deported. But the government shot down the idea, with some ministers saying it evoked images of a "concentration camp," and that it would bring Israel bad press.

Yet a transit camp for future deportees is what has been set up at Avalon.

'It's not the kind of place anybody should have to stay in for even one day," said "David," another Ghanian illegal worker who is in contact with arrestees and their families.

They live in tents, without the facilities of other prisons, and they don't get much to eat," said Vaisbuch. "Is this what they deserve for the 'crime' of coming to Israel to

Many, if not most, African laborers have been in Israel for a few years, and are married with children. They came here on tourist or work visas, and remained after their permits

They complain that if they must be deponed, they should at least be given a few months' notice so they

can make arrangements for their

They tell of an African arrested a little over a week ago whose wife is eight months pregnant. Two days after her husband's arrest, the woman started to bleed and had to call an ambulance. "I don't know how the baby is," said David. Another story is told of an arrested

African worker who, with the help of a babysitter, had been caring for his infant daughter after his wife left him. When the inspectors arrested him, he told them there was nobody to look after the girl. "So a social worker came and took the child to a hospital and put her up for adoption. I have no idea where the mother is," said Sheridan Adj, an Israeli citizen from Ghana who used to publish a magazine on the African community

Others tell the story of an African worker who was sprayed with Mace when he tried to escape from the car taking him to the tent camp. And inspectors sometimes use electric stun devices to subdue workers who resist arrest, said Adj.
"These men aren't wearing uni-

forms, and one pushes you, another holds you, and you think you're being robbed. Of course the people

are going to wrestle, to resist," he explained.

Illegal foreign workers await deportation at a tent camp at Ramle's Ayalon Prison.

The situation has been exploited by street criminals who, impersonating plainclothes Israeli officials, have accosted African laborers, demanded to see their passports, then informed them that they were "holding onto" their wallets -money included, Adj said. The Africans are often too intimidated to resist, and of course are unwilling to

These days, African illegal laborers stay on the telephone, trading information, feeding one another's

The grapevine now has it that the arrests are being carried out in "revenge" for the Israelis who were stranded in Sierra Leone during the recent coup, Adj said. Early this week, David said he was

lucky to have a lot of milk and bread in his refrigerator so he wouldn't have to go out of his apartment. "Nobody's going out if they can help it. It's like a graveyard out there," he

Donna, however, still goes out to work cleaning Israelis' homes. "I have to feed my baby," she said. "I just go out to get the bus, and what-ever happens is in God's hands."

By DAN IZENBERG University sociologist Eric Cohen.

go to the police, he said.

Cohen and Kleiman spoke this week at a public seminar on foreign workers organized by the Harvey L. Silbert Center for Israel Studies at the Hebrew

of as many as 250,000 legal and illegal foreign workers in Israel, the only reliable figure is the one published by the Central Bureau of Statistics - 130,000 legal and illegal workers.

According to Cohen, the four main ethnic groups

Here to stay?

There are no signs that any of the groups of foreign workers in Israel today have become permanera ethnic communities, says Hebrew

However, Cohen warned that the situation could change in time, just as it had in other countries like Germany, where foreign workers eventually estab-

Another researcher, economist Ephraim Kleiman, warned that the virtually unlimited potential supply of foreign labor could create a "critical mass" of foreign workers in Israel. At that point, the foreign population would be big enough to create self-help and cultural institutions which would, in turn, become a magnet for additional members of the community who would come for more than purely economic rea-

Researcher Ze'ev Rozenak said that despite reports

among the foreign workers in Israel are the Thais, the Romanians, the Filipinos and the West Africans.

Cohen, who has conducted extensive research on the foreign workers, draws the following conclusions about the different groups:

(flan Ossendryver Israel Sun)

• The Thais: There are about 18,500 Thai workers. most of them in the agricultural sector. They come to Israel legally, under the patronage of the moshav movement. Almost all of them are men aged 20 to 30. There are a few families among them but almost no children, because of an unwritten understanding that the women will not become pregnant. The agricultural workers live on the moshavim and are assigned to individual farmers. They have no work mobility and have little freedom of movement in their leisure time. The Thais are not organized and have no social institutions. They invariably return home at the end of their two-year contract.

· The Romanians: There are an estimated 60,000 Romanian workers in Israel. Almost all of them have come to Israel legally, through the auspices of the Contractors' Association. Almost all are male. The few Romanian women have entered the country ille-

There are almost no families and no children in the community. Most of the men are in their 20s and 30s. but some are as old as 50.

See FOREIGN, Page 10

return to



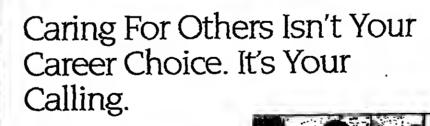
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He promised to be a prime minister for all the people, to bring a secure peace, and to privatize, privatize, privatize. One year after Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu took office. what's the score?

Hebron to Har Homa:



Terror: Suicide bombing at Tel Aviv's Apropo cafe. (aryan McBurney)



The handshake that wasn't supposed to be: Netanyahu with



The view from afar

inyamin Nctanyahu had a tough act to follow when be took over as prime

minister one year ago.

The Clinton administration had been infatuated by the late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin. Washingtoo was unequivocally enthusiastic about Labor's willingness to trade land for peace and achieve a pragmatic accommodatioo with the Palestinians.

The intimacy and camaraderie with which the Clioton administration worked with Labor government officials, particularly Peres and his then-deputy, Yossi Beilin, were unparalleled in modern Middle Eastern bistory. But what troubled the

most after Netanyahu's victory was the new government's unfamiliarity with the technical aspects of the peace

The new negotiators were totally unaware of the progress that had been made, the texts that had been approved and the understandings reached before they came upon the diplomatic scene," one bighly placed source said. "The Palestiolans were surprised at the degree of their unpreparedness and resented the need to virtually start again from

But the Americans made the adjustment - to the extent that, when Netanyahu came out with month, the State Department's initial reaction was cautious, but not negative. US officials recalled having rejected the original Allon Plan as an unworkable proposition, but are oot saying the same of its embryonic offspring.
"After all, the situation on the

ground has changed and we have to take that into account, as does 'Allon-Plus,'" a diplomatic source said.

Nevertheless, even such a-cautious approach by administration officials comes after a year of diplomatic hard knocks. Both American and British analysts of the Netanyahu government's performance during its first year agree on one thing: the govern-ment accrued diplomatic credit for the Hebron redeployment

Jay Bushinsky looks at how Netanyahu has fared on the diplomatic front

and the release of Palestinian womeo prisoners. But this was squandered in uofavorable decisions - like the opening of the Western Wall tunnel exit and the start of construction at Har

There were other diplomatic flash points that many felt were simply unnecessary, like the dispute with Jordan over water transfer, resolved only at a summit meeting between Netanyahu and King Hussein last month.

More subtly, however, is the problem of savoir-faire, or grace, as interpreted by foreign friends, be they Western or Middle

There is unpublicized pique in and around the White House over what Washington insiders deem Netanyahu's tendency to be a bit too casual with the chief executive.

True, the president bas a commitmeot to Israel that borders on the mystical, these observers say. He is emotionally involved in his "Allon-Plus" plan earlier this Israel's welfare, security and development. But that does not mean that an occasional Israeli guest, regardless of rank, can blithely call him "Bill." The sources note that "even Hillary Clinton refers to him as 'Mr. President' io public."

A Palestinian intellectual contends that Netanyahu's main shortcoming is that he lacks "mujamala" — a hard-to-define Arab quality rendered in Hans Wehr's Dictionary of Written Arabic as "civility, amiability and flattery." He regrets the fact that few, if any, of the prime minister's top aides are conversant in Arab social norms and modes of personal behavior.

One year after his installation as Israel's prime minister, the Arabic-language media by and large have been depicting him as an enemy of the Arab nation. One seasoned Arab commentator, however, views this as having nothing to do with Netanyahu himself, he attributes this to the prevailing Arab notion that Labor was the Arabs' only partner in the regional arena. He contends that the anti-Netanyahu hostility began well before the 1996 elec-

like the victorious Likudniks, who were unschooled in the oogoing diplomatic process, the PA's minions, too, had "failed to prepare themselves for the Likud option," the com-

mentator says. He believes that it took them 12 months "to lcam how to live with Netanyahu," an interesting observation given that the Palestinians and Israel, spurred by the Egyptians, are now trying to find a basis for resuming talks after several months of stalemate.

But Walid Awad, who serves as a consultant to the PA, doubts the Egyptians will succeed. His assessment of Netanyahu and his cabinet reflects some of the notions that have become fashionable throughout the Arab

"It is not a secret that a majority of Palestinians - officials and otherwise - believe that it is

almost impossible to achieve peace with the Netanyahu government for two reasons:

"One: the basis upon which the current governing coalition is built, which makes it impossible for Netanyahu should he wish to move the process for-ward by balting the building of settlements on Palestinian

Two: the nature of Netanyahu as an individual, his background, his personal qualities ... the fact is that he is strange to the area and its culture,"

LIKE THE AMERICANS, the European Union's approach to the Netanyahu government is predicated more on national and economic interests than on political principles.

At the bilateral level, for example, Israeli-British trade is steadily increasing and is likely to keep growing under Britain's newly elected Labor government. But this does not tempt the Foreign Office into reconsidering its assessment of the Jerusalem issue, still regarding all areas of eastern Jerusalem as occupied territory.

Some European diplomatic sources believe Netanyahu's two biggest mistakes during his first year were the opening of the Western Wall tunnel exit and the start of the Har Homa construction. The tunnel incident was compounded, they say, by the failure to consult with the Jordanians. who are adamant about their special status with regard to the Temple Mount.

These Netanyahu's use of Egypt as a go-between with the PA as "an astute move" that transformed the Egyptians' anti-Israel image to that of mediator and peacemaker.

Germany is much more outspokenly supportive than is Britain, and much less critical of Nctanyahu's performance as prime minister.

In a speech delivered in Jerusalem in March, German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel said: "Germany is today - after the US - Israel's most important foreign partner. Of this we are proud. This relationship with the Jewish people, the friendship the US and the special relations with France — have become axiomatic for us."

Netanyahu's visit to Bonn was a festive occasion, without the criticism and skepticism that have been his lot at home, and his German hosts regretted that the violence following the opening of the tunnel exit forced him to cut short the visit.

It is worth noting, however that Netanyahu is the first Likud prime minister whose visit to Britain, though brief, did not carry the heavy historical residue that faced his predecessors, Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Shamir, who had been pursued by the British for their underground activities during the Mandate period. The clec-tion of British Prime Minister Tony Blair may make things even easier, Blair is of the same generation as Netanyahu, something that may mitigate their fundamental ideological differ-

In short, while much of the world sees Netanyahu's policies as problematic or contradictory, most diplomatic sources expect him to run the political distance to the year 2000.

THE JERUSALEM

A secure peace?

Netanyahu said he'd get tough on terror. Do Israelis feel safer - and are they? Arieh O' Sullivan reports

Ten weeks after a Hamas terrorist blew himself up in the Apropo cafe in Tel Aviv. killing three women, a satisfied customer gets up, passes the front counter on his way out, gives the thumbs-up, winks and says: "It was a blast!"

"You see?" asks Haim Kodman, the chain-smoking day manager of the chic cafe. "Eveo though people may joke about it, it's still on their minds and it's having an effect on their sense of personal

Indeed, a year after Binyamin Netanyahu squeezed into power on his platform of "secure peace," do Israelis feel safer - and are they?

A number of decisive events have shaped Israelis' sense of personal safety over the past year. A few weeks after Netanyahu took office, a Hamas terrorist cell killed five Israelis in two drive-by shootings near Beit Shemesh.

The riots that erupted after the opening of the Western Wall tunnel exit in September hit the country in the face like ice water. For the first time, IDF soldiers were attacked by members of the Palestinian Police, causing a severe crisis in confidence from which neither side has fully recovered. Then there was the unexpected

buildup of Syrian commando units on the Golan Heights; for the first time in years, IDF intelligence believed it was possible that Syria would launch a war. This was followed by the redeployment in Hebron and the decision in March to begin construction on Jerusalem's Har Homa.

Days later, the suicide bomber killed three and wounded 47 in the Apropo cafe. A month later, two suicide bombers botched their attempts to bit Israeli buses in the Gaza Strip.

The latest public opinion poll done on national security was released by Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, just prior to the March 21 Apropo bombing.

According to the survey, conducted by Prof. Asher Arian, 65 percent of those questioned believed that the PLO could control terror, up from 43% in 1996. The poll found that 70% of the public believed that the Oslo Accords would contribute to Israel's security - something Arian attributes to Netanyahu's declared policy of proceeding to implement the

But most interesting, the survey of 1,216 Jewish Israelis showed that while the public was more optimistic about reaching an agreement with the Palestinians - 62% agreed that the Oslo 2 agreement would enhance Israel's security, as opposed to 49% last year - there was a 10% increase in those who believe there will be a war in the region during the next three

Arian defends his seemingly dated survey by saying that bomb-ings traditionally do not set longterm trends.

"What we can learn from the past 10 to 12 years of surveying is that when there is a bombing there is an instant reaction, but that within a few days or weeks patterns go back to what they were," Arian says.

AT THE Apropo cafe, there are no visible signs that the blast ever occurred. A couple with a newborn baby nibbles at their lunch. Two women chit-chat over dessert. An elderly man reads and

sips his ice coffee as his companion talks into his cellular phone.

Look, people won't stop coming here. They won't stop having birthday parties or going out. People carry on. Only now there is a sense of hopelessness. The whole peace process has come to a halt. Even the Americans have given up," says the crew-cut Kodman,

But, he adds, "Not everything was good with the previous government. There were bus bombs in Jerusalem and the streets were full of blood here in Tel Aviv, too. But at least there was movement [in the peace process], at least the government knew what it was doing and we were moving in the direction of a solution.

"Now, we have attacks and the government is just one big mess. It's all chaos," says Kodman.
"Now it may be quiet for the short run, but it's only a matter of time until the stalemate catches up and

we see more attacks." Film director Dani "Nokio" Verete says he feels less safe than when Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres were in control. But he adds that his sense of insecurity hasn't stopped him from doing anything he did before.

He accuses Netanyahu of ruining the few gains made with the Arabs through his "mocking superiority that we are stronger and have the moral right on our side. This is a recipe for total insecurity."

Verete believes the string of ter, rorist attacks that preceded the election were the waning efforts of the Hamas and Islamic Jihad. and the attacks were about to end as the peace process advanced. On the other hand, Yitzhak Shmuel, 49, a Likud supporter.

feels very safe under Netznyahu. Before he was elected I was afraid to take buses. I was afraid to even go to Jerusalem's Old City," says Shmuel. "But Netanyahu is bringing us secure peace. I ride the buses and am not afraid to go anywhere any:

As Shmuel sees it, Netanyahu's embrace of Oslo is a ploy and the withdrawal from Hebron was forced on him.

"Netanyahu's an actor and he's waiting for them [the Palestinians] to make a mistake and he'll kill the whole agreement. The Arabs love and respect the fist and without it, nothing will work," says the father of five, including one son currently serving in Hebron.

"I'm a simple man With my band on my heart I hope there is a war with Syria so that we can show the Arabs just how mighty we are," Shmuel says.

EXPERTS believe that while the peace process is far from dead. there are problems.

It will take a long time on the part of the actors to move away from the paths they have chosen says Prof. Efraim Inbar, director of Bar-Ilan University's BESA Center. "I think Israelis are rather impatient. In recent years, Israelis have put more emphasis on personal security, which is part of a trend of emphasizing individual values instead of collective val-

He agrees, however, that though Netanyahu was elected because people felt unsaft, "with the peace process seemiogly at an impasse, people are worried about a renewal of terrorist activity.

See TERROR, Page 12



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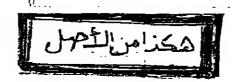
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Binyamin Netanyahu's first year

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See YERROR Page 12



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nario, these children will "only". place enormous strain on the family: in the worst, they will endanger themselves and those around them. The plight of these families highlights problems plaguing the social welfare policy under the Netanyahu government. A tight budget and an economic philosophy of privatization means that the screws are being tightened, with the disadvantaged being among the

first to feel the pinch.
Prime Minister Binyamio
Netanyahu rode to power in the last elections, as Menachem Begin did in 1977, with the help of the development towns and disadvantaged neighborhoods. In the first heady days after the elections, he promised to be the prime minister of the eotire nation: secular and religious, Jews and Arabs, urban and development-town residents, the strong and the weak.

parents of some 50

retarded children were told

at a meeting with the head of

the Jerusalem municipal welfare

committee oo Sunday that,

because of budget cots, their chil-

dren would not undergo the final

diagnosis needed before they

could be placed in any formal edu-

"People were furious," said

Barbara Epstem, director of Community Advocacy, "There

was yelling and screaming. You

have parents who don't know

what they are going to do with their children."

These families are among 250

whom, according to press reports, are unable to institutionalize their

children because of the lack of gov-

emment funds. In the best-case sce-

cational structure or shelter.

The weak, Epstein said, are still There has been no improvement under Netanyahu," said Epstein,

whose organization has offices in

The health, education and welfare landscape under Netanyahu is bleak, but under Labor the situation was not that much better, Herb Keinon reports

Who's feeling the pinch?

help citizens fight for social rights and lobby for improved legislation. The whole budget process showed that the government's approach to social welfare is to try and cut-back on entitlement payments," she said, using the govemment's aborted attempt to charge a fee for every doctor's visit as an illustration. Although this plan, which Community Advocacy lobbied heavily against, was not adopted, she said it reveals a reflex of making cuts in areas that will impact beavily on those who can least afford them. "Ten or 30 shekels a visit may not

sound much to many people," she said, "but it hurts the poor." Another example of this reflex, according to Epstein, is the cancellation of the Veteran Citizens Law. which anchored into legislation senior citizen discounts for everything from municipal tax breaks to transportation subsidies and cheaper tickets to cultural events. Now that the law has been repealed, she said, the decision to retain these benefits is with the relevant ministries. "But when something like this goes from being law, to being up to the goodwill of the ministry, then it is in a different category

altogether and can be done completely away with fairly easily." Many people, Epstein said, are falling through the cracks in the lurch toward privatization. One realm where this is readily evident

is in public housing.

"There is no building of public housing," she said. "Six hundred people in Jerusalem have been approved for public-housing apartments, but there is no housing available. The government's policy is to encourage private building and to give mortgages or rental subsidies. The problem is that the housing subsidies don't come close to equaling the reotal payments. Under public housing, people would pay NIS 100 for an apartment. Now they may get NIS 600 a month rental subsidy, but the cheapest apartmeot in Jerusalem is \$450 (NIS 1,500). It doesn't cover the

(Left): Palestinian Police enter Hebron following the IDF withdrawal in January; (above): Class of "96: The original Netanyahu cabinet at the president's residence last June.

NIS 70,000 mortgages available to young couples have not been updated in three years, and are not keeping anace with real-estate prices. Though the overall picture Epstein paints of the health, education and welfare landscape under Netanyahu is bleak, she said

rent." Furthermore, she said, the

that the situation under Labor was not that much better. Barbara Swirski, director of the Adva Center, an "acrion oriented" policy analysis center based in Tel Aviv, echoes Epstein's sentiment, "I don't think there is a major difference [in the two parties] regarding social policy," she said. "The leading economic voices in both parties are advocates of free-mar-

ket economy. "It is common knowledge that Netanyahu's economic plan in

July 1996 was left there by the

Labor party. He didn't just come into office and then put forward his own economic plan. Both parties advocate the privatization of the economy, and advocate cutting spending because it is bad for the economy." In fact, she said, there is more of a social looby within the LikudiGesher ranks then there is within Labor.

As far as expenditure oo welfare is concerned, in 1996, the National Insurance Institute payments increased, but that has more to do with demographics and eligibility requirements than with a change of policy, Swirski said. She said the budget of the Mioistry of Labor and Social Affairs increased in 1996 by about 1 percent, and is now some NIS 2.8 billion out of a

more than NIS 200 billion budget. Swirsky said that one area where Labor spending outstripped Netanyahu's was in education. In 1996, she said, there was a 5 percent drop in the number of school hours. According to Yaakov Kop, direc-

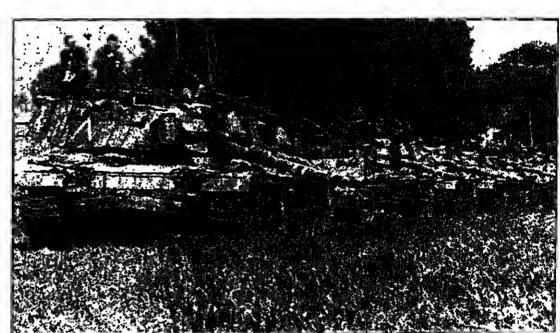
tor of the Jerusalem-based Center for Social Policy Studies, between 1992 and 1995 there was a mass infusion of funding into the educa-tional system. This did not, he points out, necessarily translate into smaller classes or longer hours, because much of the money was eaten up by salary increases. The argument could be made, however, that a better-paid teacher is a happier teacher, and that a happier

teacher is better for the students. According to Kop, another area where Netanyahu's performance is lagging behind is unemployment. From 1992 to 1996, unemployment - during a period of massive immigrant absorption and increased investment because of the peace process - dropped from 12 to 6 percent, while the figure last year

stood at 7 percent, and is rising. See PINCH, Page 12



Face off with Palestinian demonstrators at Har Homa.



Bracing for violence: IDF tanks stationed outside of Nablus in April.

Jerusalem, Acre and Beersheba that Economic anticlimax

Inlike the diplomatic fanfare, nulitary tension, and politi-cal scandals which have highlighted Binyamin Netanyahu's first year in office, his economic record has so far been anything but dramatic. So much so, in fact, that when contrasted with his pretentious election promises, it seems the ultimate anticlimax of his

incumbency. Netanyahu adeptly handled the one financial crisis which erupted since he took office. But his economic performance has been marred by a perplexing lack of a detailed road map, a basic problem with the populist elements in his coalition, and a relationship of mutual mistrust with his finance minister. For now, all this results in a failure to deliver the kind of Thatcherite reforms which he repeatedly promised prior to and

since his election. The one financial crisis which afflicted Netanyahu was the nearcollapse of the bond market last July. To be sure, that mayhem was merely the final overflow of a brew which had been simmering continuously even since January '95, when provident-fund redemp-

tions exceeded deposits by NIS 600 million.

During the last 17 months of Labor's reign the public had withdrawn an aggregate NIS 8.7 billion from the provident funds, which are heavily invested in state The government has been reacting to, rather than initiating, economic change, writes **Amotz Asa-El**

bonds and have traditionally been the Israeli middle class's major long-term investment instrument. Whether due to inflationary expectations, or because of a belief that the Oslo process would harm the economy, the public accelerated its redemption of provident funds, ultimately send-

ing bond prices diving. Faced with that crisis, Netanyahu, Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel and Finance Minister Dan Meridor concocted a typically Israeli improvization, which had the central bank buy the market's surplus supplies while assigning a hastily assembled committee to seek ways to cure the market's long-

in the short term that remedy worked; the bond market calmed

down and the public's trust in the provident funds was largely restored. However, those events were alarming for their revelation of an economically unarmed Netanyahu who assumed power pretty much shorn of contingency plans.

In sum, says economist Dan Galai, this government's economic performance has so far been dominated by reactions rather than by initiatives.

Indeed, the recommendations of the Brodet Committee have not been implemented to this day, primarily because of its members' failure to fathom the gap between Netanyahu's personal Milton Friedmanite faith, and his political allies' tax-and-spend commit-

And so, when it came to Brodet's recommendations on how to reform the financial markets, the blueprint which would have offered the public a broader and deeper selection of long-term investment instruments was aborted because a major component in it was a tax on short-term investments: the Pakam plans, which are popular among the working-class Israelis who form the backbone of Gesher and Shas voters.

See ECO, Page 12

A similar fate befell Meridor's

well-intentioned plans to charge

for doctor's visits and raise bus

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"Realities of Jerusalem" 10:00-13:00 19 June. Speakers: M.K. Tamar Gozanky, Anat Hoffman, Zahira Kamal, Amal Khresihe, Khader Shuqirat & Danny Seidemann

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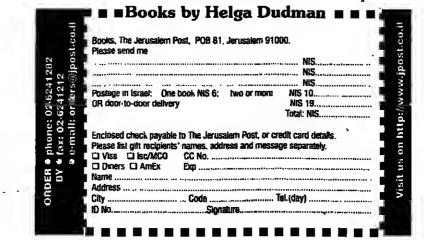
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Suffering knows no season

By BEVERLEE BLACK

Thy is it that as soon as the summer arrives and the temperature soars, donaoons to our Funds drop severely? I discussed this with a psychologist who immigrated here from Scotland and he said it may be linked to the theory that it's much more difficult to be poor in the rain and snow than in 30-degree

sunshine. To see a poor person shuffling along in disintegrating shoes in the sleet and slush seems to urge their more fortunate peers to dip their hands into their pockets.

Bul a toothache knows no season, summer camps for deprived children don't take place in the winter, cataract operations, glasses and hearing aids are needed all the year round, so our needs, as the go-between from you to those who require help, run from January through December.

Many of you are planning holidays abroad or visiting family back in the "old country" and the cost is quite considerable. Why not add another \$18 or eveo more to your summer vacation costs and send it to me for a good cause and go away feeling much better.

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FOREIGN Continued from Page 7

Up to 20 percent of the Romanians, all of whom are brought to Israel to work with a specific building contractor, quit their job at some point and look for work elsewhere. Technically, they are illegal workers from that point on.

Outside of work, the Romanians are completely on their own. They live in poor accommodations and often get together to drink at local rs after work. Although some of the workers stay in Israel somewhat longer than their two-year permit, they all return home eventually, and many of them suffer from loneliness during their stay here.

The Filipinos: There are about

15,000 Filipino workers, most of them female care-givers. They arrive with permits but teod to stay much longer than two years and eventually go home. There is no central local agency responsible for the import of the Filipino workers. Theoretically, they arrive al the request of an individual family, although they frequently move from one employer to another. Most of the workers are

ers among them usually leave their children behind. Those that give birth in Israel send their children home at the age of three. The living conditions of the Filipinos are relatively good. They live in their employers' homes and receive a decent salary. But because they are on duty 24 hours a day, many prefer to switch from care-giving to housecleaning.

The Filipinos are the best-orga-

women aged 20 to 50. The moth-

nized of all the foreign workers. They have established regional associations and many of them belong to churches.

and Nigeria: There are 6,000 to 10,000 West Africans, most of them here illegally. About twothirds of the community is male and there are many families with children.

Some of the children are enrolled in local schools but the families usually send them back home at the age of seven or eight. The African workers participate in the free labor market and, as such, make the best salaries - up to NIS. 25 an hour (without social benefits). They are well organized as a community, with social activity revolving around churches, social clubs and a soccer league.

A VERY DIFFERENT TWO DAYS ON THE

Widely recognized as perhaps Israel's most important security asset, the Golan is for the moment on the back burner. But it won't be there for long. So what better time than now to join Shorashim and The Jerusalem Post Travel Cluh for an in-depth, English-speaking two day tour of the area. We'll visit the settlements, examine the security issues and view the terrain, the animals, the water and the beauty.

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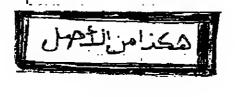
The price: NIS 595. Includes transportation from Jerusalem or Tel Aviv and back, background lectures and on-the-spot explanations, entrance to all sites, half-board accommodation in a double room, lunch and dinner on the first day, breakfast and lunch-box on the second.

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A de la companya de l NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY. THE WASTER STATE OF THE SECOND STATE OF THE SE Reher theres

By AMOTZ ASA-EL t was a breezy Shabbat morning several days before Yom Kipper in 1966 when our parents - in an uncharacteristic burst of spontaneity - took my three siblings and me for a long walk from our home in

Jerusalem's Old Katamon. Having passed the railway station, a few infantry outposts, several concrete tank barriers. occasional signs warning of land mines, and the rain which years later would he transfigured into the Cinematheque, we finally started the short climb up Mt. Zion.

MIDDLE ISRAEL

Over the previous 19 years that little hill had become a substitute of sorts for Jerusalem's inaccessible Jewish sanctnaries. Up oo a balcony, just above where many Christians believe the Last Supper was held, we joined a small group of passers-by who tried to get a view of the Western Wall. A few steps away from there worshippers were reciting Psalms above the candle-laden tomb which some believe is King David's.

Despite the surreal setting of barbed wire, command cars and machine guns, there was little sense of foreboding in the air. Though on the edge of noman's-land the place was so serene that other than the sound of a stray hell from the nearby Dormition Church and a lone bark from the dog hospital down oo the edge of the Snltan's Pool, no sound disturbed the prayers' whispers.

By day's end, having enjoyed our little outing, we decided unanimously to repeat it every year on the Saturday between Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashana.

A VIEW FROM NOV

A post-Messianic hangover However, as things turned out, like Arik Lavi, who today could Jews" and latter saw as a

by the next year Mi. Zion's brief role as a Jewish pilgrimage site would become an anachronism. It was hardly two weeks since the end of the '67 war, and on Shavuot morning the Old City was opened to the public for the first time since the fall of the Jewish Quarter in 1948.

So there we were, once again, going past the railway station, the former no-man's-land and the future Cinematheque, only now we were joined by 200,000 jubilant people, most of whom skirted Mt. Zion and flocked instead to the real thing: The Wall.

In all likelihood, anyone who went through the nerve-racking three weeks which had preceded the war, then fought on the battlefield or sat in a shelter under heavy hombardment, and finally marched on that spontaneous parade has a sense of what Messianic salvation must feel

It had been a few days since ehief ehaplain Rabbi Shlomo Goren's dramatic shofar blasts at the newly conquered Temple Mount penetrated every Israeli house, but those howls still seemed to eeho there. My father, leaning against the Wall, read with me Psalm 126, including that timeless verse, "when God returned us to Zion we were like dreamers." Like the rest of this country, I was sure I was in the midst of a divine spectacle.

TODAY IT woold seem inconceivable, but the founders of the Movement for Greater Israel were mostly secular, and included the cream of Israel's literary elite: Natan Alterman, Haim Guri and Moshe Sbamir, as well as Nobel laureate S.Y. Agnon, veteran kibhutz leader Yitzhak Tabenkin, and popular songwriter Naomi Shemer. A singer

hardly be more distant from those Israelis who cling to biblical tombs, back then vowed from the depth of his lungs into any random microphone, "we'll never abandon you again, Rachel, in the fields of Bethlehem."

And yet, understandable as it was, that post-'67 Messianic psychosis was much the same product of delusion and harbinger of disaster as were the Messianic movements which followed Shabbetai Zevi, whose charismatic appearance excited rahhis all over the world until he became an apostate more than 300 years ago, and Shimon Bar-Kochba, who more than 1,500 years earlier led to Judea's destruction by rebelling against

Unlike Israeli conventional wisdom, Messianism - that quest for a cataclysmic and comprehensive salvation - can be wholly secular, and Judaism is not necessarily Messianic, Rosa Luxemburg, Leon Trotsky and Che Guevara were secular messianics. Conversely, then NRP leader Moshe Haim Shapira, who prior to the '67 war opposed the conquest of Jerusalem and following the victory supported territorial compromise, was a religious non-Messianic.

Moreover, Messianics have traditionally split into universalists and nationalists. And Zionism, like Rebecca's womb which could hardly contain the twins who constantly fought in it, has from its onsel hosted both attitudes, as well as rationalist noo-Messianics who merely sought a place in the sun for the

There were those, like Max and Vladimir Jahotinsky, who yearned for what the former called "muscled

"Zionism of spears"; others, like Theodor Herzl, while failing to foresee the prospective Jewish state's regional conflicts, still envisioned a largely international Jerusalem; and there were those, like Ahad Ha'am, who didn'i care much for statehood and sovereignty altogether, and merely wanted to develop a culturally vibrant community in the Jews' ancestral land.

Israel's post-'67 tragedy was that the dazzling victory it had won made it feel so historically destined, morally superior and militarily invincible, that for a while it took the worst of all worlds: Not only did it embrace Messianic Zionism, but it chose its nationalist version.

Since then, most Israelis have long abandoned Messianism, and in fact often engaged in a hedonism which some might see as the natural reaction to a failed vision of political grandeur. Others have flirted with the secular, universalistic. New-Middle-East Messianism, only to find that it too is a much more distant prospect than they had been led to believe, if not an allogether far-fetched one. Meanwhile, even the secular Right has ahandoned its old Messianic attitudes, as was vividly reflected in Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's recent willingness to compromise Wesi Bank territories for

What's left of Israel's post-'67 Messianism is the fanalicism of rabbis like Haim Druckman or Avraham Shapira. In theirs, and the rest of Jerusalem's Merkaz Harav Yeshiva's "Redemption Theory," the IDF's victories are vindications of God's hand in history, and stepping stones on the road to a fully restored biblical kingdom of priesis.

Well, it's high time they fath-

omed the aftermath of their call two years ago to refuse orders to evacuate West Bank military bases. The fact is that in an army where nearly one in two lieutenants is religious, not one heeded that derelict "order." Clearly, the public is far more post-Messianic than most Gush Emunim rabbis realize.

Passively expecting the Messiah's coming is one thing, but connecting that faith to practical politics must lead to frustrations, because no reality will ever match the rosy promises of a Messianic prophet.

And the frustrations in their

turn ultimately make the earth quake: they lay waste an entire Jewish domain, leave one messiah, Bar Kochha, devoured in a gladiator ring, and his mentor, Rabbi Akiva, tortured to death with metal combs, they lead another messiah. Shahbetai Zevi, to a scandalous conversion to Islam, and yet another -Joseph Frank - to embrace Christianity, and they lead one Israeli to attempt blowing up the Temple Mount's mosques, and another to murder an Israeli premier, paradoxically the very one who led that ostensibly miraculous victory in '67.

God may have heen on our side, but the '67 war was won because Israel was psychologically cornered and technologieally superior. Against that hackdrop, numerical inferiority was a surmountable obstacle.

A well-trained, highly motivated, fully industrialized and modernly equipped army is likely to defeat the largely illiterate armies of agrarian societies, which is what we faced here 30 years ago. It may have had a lot to do with faith, hus it had notbing to do with the Messiah. which for two millennia has brought this nation nothing but

doesn't chastise us in several

languages, Often including

Hebrew, for our deviations from

right to a homeland" in Eretz

In light of the Arafatocracy's

mass violations of the Oslo

Accords and its emergence as a

murderous "thugocracy" (as this newspaper's editorial writer

dubbed it on June 3), I wonder

when Oz is going to implement

an undertaking he made in these

columns on September 3, 1993. He wrote: "What if they [the Arafatians - M.K.] cheat? What

if they take whatever we give

them and demand even more,

still exercising violeoce and ter-

His solution: "...it will be mili-

tarily easier for Israel to break

the backbooe of a tiny, demilita-

rized Palestinian entity than to go

on breaking the backbones of ...

(Of course, with our recent

governments turning two blind

eyes on them, the Arafatocrats

Oz continued: "Once peace

comes, Israeli doves, more thao

other Israelis, musi assume a

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cerning the duty of the future

Palestinian regime to live by the

letter and the spirit of its obliga-

Peace has yet 10 come, but the

time has long since arrived for

our doves and others, here and

abroad, to press the Arafaiocrais

to start living up to the letter and the spirit of the Oslo Aecords.

with their disregard of Oslo? The

answer may he in Moses'

farewell address, in Deuteronomy

(Thonks to Yoram Getzler of

Aminadov for reminding me of

Oz's undertaking and to Drs.

Joseph and Aoron Lerner, co-directors of IMRA:Independent

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Oslo ond of civil conduct.)

32:6, "...an unwise people."

Why do we let them get away

stone-throwing Palestinians."

are not so "demilitarized.")

Dry Bones



SHABBAT SHALOM



The Nazirite: A Jewish ascetic

By SHLOMO RISKIN

"All the doys of o nozirite's vow, no rozor shall come upon his heod: until the doys be fulfilled which he consecroted himself to God, he sholl be holy, he shall let the hoir of his head grow long." (Numb. 6:5)

riests (or kohanim) are born, not made, for they are descendants of Aaron. Nonetheless, the Torah is sensitive to the possibility that nonpriests might wish to pursue a more consecrated, spiritual and even ascetic lifestyle. To this end, this week's portion of Naso introduces the option of the nazirite.

nazirite's vow, which could be taken by any Israelite for a minimum of 30 days: the prohibition against drinking wine, the prohibillion against coming into contact with the dead, and the prohibition against cutting one's hair.

It turns out that two of these three - refraining from wine and not coming into contact with the dead - correspond closely to the demands placed upon the priest-

But here the similarity ends: It is only the nazirite - and not the priest - who may not cut a single hair on his head. And after the conclusion of the nazirite vow, his entire head must be shorn, and the hair is then burned on the aliar. In the words of the text, the nazirite "... shall take the hair of the head of his separation (nizro), and put it in the fire which is under the sacrifice of the peace offering." (Num.

What strikes us about this command is that the burning of the hair seems to share the altar with the other sacrifices the nazirite is required to bring: humi-offering, sin-offeriog, peace-offering and meal-offer-

Why dramatize the significance and centrality of the nazirite's hair? After all, once the period of the vow ends, there are no public ceremonies for the lifting of the other restrictions. Also, we can understand why a

"consecrated individual" must stay away from wine: it can play havoc with our desires. We can even understand why be must avoid contact with a corpse - an experience which often leads to melancholia that prevents eloseness to God. But what is the symbolism of hair? And why let it grow long in the first place, only to have it eventually burnt on the altar?

We can begin to understand the symbolism of the hair when we note Rashi's comment that the reason the laws of the nazirite immediately follow the laws of the suspected adulteress (sota) (Num. 5:11-31) is the psychological affinity between these two states: after someone sees the suspected adulteress in her shame, be will remove himself from wine - often the

source of transgression. But in addition to the evil which can emanate from wine, transgression can come from uncontrolled hair. The Bible continues to describe the punishment of the sota: "And the priest shall stand the [suspected

unfaithful] woman before God and uncover her hair...." (Num. 5:18) Rashi here comments that the purpose was to shame her, pointing out that a married woman whose hair is uncovered is disgraced. After all, the Mishna rules that a married woman cannot appear in public with her hair uncovered, covered hair being a time-honored symbol that the woman is mar-

Indeed, the Talmudic discussion on the Mishna deduces that a married woman is commanded to cover her hair from the fact that the unfaithful wife's hair had to be uncovered (B.T. Ketubot 72a).

If there exists any doubts as to the following two citations prove this point. The Talmud records that the bigh priest Simon the Righteous had never eaten from the guilt-offering of a nazirite (because he believed it sinful to assume unnecessary prohibitions).

He made an exception, however, when be mer a striking young man, beauliful of eyes, goodly of appearance, his locks arranged in curls. "I said to him: My son, why do you wish to destroy such beautiful hair [in becoming a nazirite]?" He said to me: 'I was a shepherd ... When I went to draw water from the well. I saw my own refleclion and the evil inclination quickly, threatened to overcome me and exile me from the world. I said to him (to this narcissistic impulse]: ... I swear that I will shave you off for the sake of heaven.'" (B.T. Nazir 4b)

Further evidence of the sexual nature of hair can be found in a fascinating responsum dealing with conversion.

We know that prior to a convert's acceptance to Judaism, three conditions are necessary for males: circumcision, immersion in a ritual bath (mikve), and acceptance of the Torah's commandments. Circumcisioo symbolizes the

relinquishing of a gentile past, immersion in the mikve symbolizes rehirth; acceptance of the commandments is a commitment to a new ideological framework. Obviously, for women there

are only two necessary steps: ritual immersion and acceptance of commandments.

But then, how do women express their rejection of a forlifestyle?

merly "no-holds-barred" gentile Prof. Mordechai Friedman, in his work Jewish Polygamy in

the Middle Ages, cites a responsum from approximately 1,000 years ago, discussing the petition of two sisters to convert. They are instructed to remove their hair and immerse themselves after accepting the commandments. Removal of the hair for

women parallels removal of the foreskin for males, both connote sexual promiscuity.

One of the important lessons to be learned from the nazirite is that all the physical aspects of life must be developed - not denied - but must then be dedicated on the altar of God in sanctification and ennoblement.

Shabbat Shalom

Only churches and ruins'



To understand what the Arafatocrats are doing and why we are letting them get away with it, we have ooly to read some Arab and Moslem sources and an ancient Jewish

Let's start with the first two. The 11th-century Persian Moslem theologian, Abu-Hamid Muhammad al-Ghazzali, laid down a principle that makes lying for "a good result" - good. I suppose from the Islamic standpoint - a religious precept. Ghazzali, called the greatest Moslem after Mohammed and "the Proof of Islam," wrote: "... If a lie is the only way of obtaining a good result, it is permitted. We must lie when truth leads to

unpleasant results." More recently, a distinguished Arah American, Princeton University professor of Semitic literature Philip K. Hitti, described a characteristic of "the Arabian genealogist" and "his brother the Arah historian." In a description that perfectly fits the leaders of the Arafatocracy, Hitti wrote: "[Their] fancy had no difficulty in hridging gaps and filling vacancies. In this way [they] succeeded in giving us in

Al Pacino

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record from Adam or, in more modesi compass, from Ishmael

fying on behalf of the Arab cause, told the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine in 1946: "There is no 'Palestine' in bistory, absolutely

More recently yet, in the 1950s, a Lebanese sociologist, Dr. Sanya Hamady, wrote: The Arab has no scruples about lying if hy it he obtains his objective..." (Charocter ond Temperoment of the Arabs).

This belps us to understand the words of Ziad Abu Zayyad of Jerusalem, member of the Arafatocratic Palestine National Couocil and co-editor of the Polestine-Isroel Journal. "Jerusalem," he maintains, "is

the symbol of national dignity of the Palestinian people, and the religious attachment of the Islamic people, of which, of course, the Palestinians are a part.... Jerusalem was an issue at the time of the Crusader invasion" (Jerusolem Post Jerusolem Doy Supplement, June 4).

Indeed, the "Palestinian [Arah] people," invented io recent decades by enemies of Israel, proceeded to inveot a "national dignity" symbolized by Jerusalem, the Jews' political

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VILLAGE VOICE

most instances a continuous capital and political, spiritual and religious cynosure for 3,000 years.

Incidentally, Hitti, author of and Arabs tells a different story: Frederick control of Jerusalem stream Zionist attitude" - i.e., Early Moslem theologic and jurists opposed assigning any sanctity to Jerusalem.

• The 13th-century Arah geographer Yakut reports: "Mecca is holy to Moslems and Jerusalem to the Jews." · An early Moslem traveler

tells us that a prayer in Mecca, where Mohammed was born and where the Ka'aba is situated, is worth 100,000 prayers elsewhere; a prayer io Medina, whose denizens treated Mohammed well when he fled from his eoemies io Mecca, is worth 50,000 prayers; and a prayer in Jerusalem, where Mohammed never visited except according to some later theopolitical interpretations of the Koran's Sura 17, is worth only

25,000 prayers elsewhere. The Koran never mentions Jerusalem, nor as much as hints at any Islamic affinity to the city. Compare this with 657 mentions in the Tanach and 154 in the New Testameot, plus 152 mentions of Zion in the Tanaeh and seven in the New Testament.

The 230-meter Arabic inscription around the Dome of the Rock, supposedly huilt to celebrate Mohammed's alleged ascent to Heaven from that rock, makes no mention of Mohammed's "night journey."

As for Jerusalem's being "an issue at the time of the Crusader invasion": On February 18, 1229, Emperor Frederick II, leader of the sixth Crusade, concluded a 10-year truce with the

Ayyubid Sultan al-Kamil of Egypt, whose realm then included most of Eretz Yisrael. In Earlier testimony by Moslems exchange al-Kamil gave what he has called "the main-

Pope Gregory VI denounced Frederick for acquiring Jerusalem in this manner, saying Moslems were to be fought, not negotiated

The Moslem monarch said of the deal: "I have ceded nothing but churches and houses in ruins.

Incidentally, nine years hefore Hitti denied "Palestine," another distinguished Arab spokesmen, Auni Bey Abdul Hadi, denounced the very concept as a Zionisi plot. Testifying before the Royal (Peel) Commission, whose aim was to come up with a plan to divide Mandatory Palestine into a Jewish and an Arah state, Abdul Hadi asserted: "There is no such country as Palestine, 'Palestine' is a term Zionists invented 'Palestine' is alien to us. It is the Zionists who totroduced it."

As for Ahu Zayyad's incorporating all Palestinians into the "Islamic natioo" - I wonder how that desceodant of the first Christians, Dr. Hanan Ashrawi, feels about that. I know that my sister, who was born in Jerusalem in 1917 and arrived in the US with my parents in 1922 oo "Palestine" passports, is not interested io heiog annexed to the "Islamic nation."

NOVELIST-ESSAYIST-political activist Amos Oz is a darling of those who have arrogated the designation "peace eamp." Hardly a month goes by that he

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TERROR Continued from Page 8

Prof. Ze'ev Maoz, head of the Jaffee Center, believes Netanyahu's policies are leading us to war with Syria.

"Being safe means being in a position that the likelihood of war in the foreseeable future has decreased," Maoz says.

"The likelihood of war with Syria is in fact substantially growing."

Maoz adds that the relative absence of terrorist attacks on the home front is "primarily due to a Palestinian decision and not to Netanyahu's policies. But they [the Palestinians] are holding violence as an option and they will use it if the stalemate continues.

The Prime Minister's Office refused to allow the national security adviser. Meir Dagan, to be interviewed for this article.

But late last year, the IDF, ooting the increasing regional instability, diverted over NIS 1 billion to replenish the stockpiles and supplies it had let run low under the Labor government. It also managed to wio a NIS 300 million increase io its N1S 32b. hudget to help it wage a conflict which some say is now inevitable.

Maoz, for example, dismisses the notion that the Syrian army, still no match for the IDF, wouldn't dare risk a confrontation with Israel it would be destined to lose.

"The question of war initiation is not only lauoched with the probability of winning, but also the political aims of the war."

"The motivation for war in Syria has grown. Syria, despite

SRULIK

THEY ARE NEARLY

BOTH ARE GOODLOOKING



its apparent conventional weak- in the peace process, the continsince the beginning of the trackincreases the Syrian will-decade.... The lack of progress ingness to go to war."

Seeks

oess, has been preparing for war ued impasse on the Israel-Syrian

ECO Continued from Page 9

In fact, when Netanyahu gave in to Foreign Minister David Levy's demands on that front it was even more embarrassing, since the premier's concessions to his second in command were made behiod the finance minis-

Indeed, the weight of Netanyahu's coalition partners iocreasingly looms as a built-in obstacle on the road to any worthwhile reform. Most recently this was manifest in the ill fate of the Kucik Report, a Treasury-sponsored study which revealed gross overspending among local authorities, including excessive overpayment to secior municipal staff.

Last week, in a clear surrender to Gesber's elaborate interests across the municipal sector, the government all but castrated that report; in an official decision the government declared its intention to impose budgetary discipline on mayors, but in the same hreath it admitted it would do so only if municipal budget deficits exceed 40 percent (!) of their original limits.

Such compromises to the populists around him have left practically all Israeli economists disillusioned about Netanyahu's willingness to actually fight for ecocomic reforms he theoretically espouses. Referring to the premier's failure to support Meridor's attempt to reduce the Electric Corporation's monopoly, Hebrew University Prof. Eitan Sheshinski said it was "a bad signal, a major setback for all those who believe in a market economy."

by DOSH

IN FACT. Netanyahu's campaign rhetoric of en-masse privatization of "100 state companies," besides taking long months to evolve into some kind of a practical, official plan, ultimately emerged as a skimpy document where a mere 13 state assets were placed on the counter.

Moreover, other than the banks - whose sale process began under the previous governmeot, albeit amid much foot dragging - there bas been oo move to sell the truly sizable companies at stake, including the Electric Corporation, Zim, El Al and Israel Aircraft Industries. The same is true of much-heralded plans to impose competition oo Egged and break up Israel Railways into two separate companies, not to mentioo Netanyahu's long-forgotten talk of tax cuts.

Coupled with the basic suspicion hetween Meridor and Netaoyaho, who insists on perceiving his treasurer as a rival, prospects for sweeping reforms seem remote, ooe year after Netanyahu's rise to power. If anything, only a dramatic downturn in the macro-economy - i.e. the reduction of the current annual growth rate from 3% to a recessionary 1%, a further rise in unemployment from its current 7.5% toward double-digit territory, or a Mexican-style hotmoney crisis in which a sizable part of the currently record-high \$16.4 billion in foreign currency reserves would flee the country would jump-start a serious reformist effort on the part of this government.

Even so, economists see some points of light, particularly the receot sell-offs of additional stakes in the Discount and Leumi banks, and in Meridor's goiet pursuit of fiscal responsibility. "For that," said financial coosultant and former Treasury director-general Yoram Gabai, referring to the last three months' budgetary surpluses, "Meridor deserves our full respect.

Dovid Harris contributed to this

PINCH Continued from Page 9

While Kop was careful not to blame any particular government policy for any of the economic indicators, be did say that a political decision is responsible for one phenomenon that could have tremendous impact on the couotry's social-welfare policy in years to come: the upsurge of students in

According to Kop, the number of students in haredi schools has swelled from 2-3 percent to 10 percent over the last 15 years, with gious adherents affiliated with Shas institutions, and much of it

This is a pure political process, not a demographic one," said Kop. He said it is the result - because of Kop said that as the strength of

by people who are the least eco-

nomically able to do so. legacy of Netanyanu's first year.

haredi schools and yeshivot,

happening in the last two years.

political power - of an increase in funds going to these institutions. Shas grows and the number of its adherents swells, more and more people will be competing for less and less entitlement money in the very near future. The reason, he said, is because the number of people opting to study Torah full-time, rather than work or study for a degree that will prepare them to work, is growing enormously. Often, he said, the decisioo to opt out of the workforce is being taken

It is this trend, more than any other legislation or plan of action, that may very well go down as the most significant social-welfare

GRAPEVINE

Let them clap

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

ppearing on *Dan Shilon Live*, Prime Minister
Binyamin Netanyahu received a warmly enthusiastic reception from the studio audience, who applauded him almost every time he spoke. Wheo program host Dan Shilon asked them to abstain so as not to drown out what Netanyahu had to say, the prime minister was more than happy to waive his rights in their favor. "It's not often that this prime minister gets applauded on the media," he said. "Let them clap."

WHILE her rivalry with fellow singer Yardena Arazî was well documented. Ofra Haza has always managed to keep her private

life under wraps. Thus, reports of ber romantic liaisons were few and far between. What Haza did deign to tell reporters over the years was that when Mr. Rìght came along, he would be an Israeli. And that's exactly what happened, despite the fact that Haza, 38, spends so much time abroad. Seven months ago, she started dating businessman Doron

Ashkenazi, whom she will marry some time this summer. It will be the second time around for him and the first for her. The Yemenite ceremony will not be a gala bash for a thousand-plus invitees. Haza, who still values her privacy, will confine the guest list to family and close friends.

"I WISH we had such a hall in Toronto," said Jeanne Lamon, musical director and concertmaster of Canada's Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, at the posiconcert reception at the Henry Crown theater bosted by Canadian ambassador David Berger and his wife Monica. Lamon, who last visited Jerusalem 25 years ago, was amazed at the changes in the city, but, more than that, she was delighted by the "attentive, alert and alive audience" whose cries of "Bravo! Bravo!" reverberated throughout the auditorium at the end of the performance.

Among the concert-goers were local conductor Anita Kamien, Tel Aviv University Jaffee Center senior research associate Mark Heller, Bar-Ilan University BESA Institute senior fellow Gerald Steinberg, and Zachariah Kay, a member of the Israel Association for Canadian Studies who has just idiished a new book. The Diplomacy of Prudence - Canada and Israel 1948-1958.

IT'S quite a step from Baroque to pazz - but not for everyone. Some of those who attended the Tafelmusik concert lingered in the foyer of the lerusalem Theater to listen to the Jerusalem Jazz Band. fresh from a highly successful tour

was satisfied.



Nicole Kidman

in the US, Dan Biran, a director at Israel Television and a popular musician in his own right, sat quietly, taking in the music, as did archeologist and sometime musician Wolf Schleicher. But Mark Shapiro from North America, not exactly a spring chicken, danced nonstop through the two-and-ahalf-hour performance, which start-ed around midnight. "You can't listen to jazz and oot move" he said,

ALTHOUGH the garden party hosted last Friday by the British Press Department, came wearing a Laura Ashley dress and an eye-

catching Laura Ashley widebrimmed picture hat. Since almost everyone else was bare-headed just about every guest made a bee-line for Reinach to comment on her headgear. Others present included Janice

Levine, the deputy director of Keren Hayesod's division for English-speaking countries Libby Bergstein, deputy director of protocol at the Jerusalem Municipality, Miri Alon, public relations director for the Cameri Theater, who had just returned from a New York fund-raiser. Jerusalem City Councilwords Anat Hoffman, who thought she had been invited to yet another 30th-anniversary-of-naited-Jerusalem function, and Aliza Olmert, who was there not as the wife of but as a member of the

Israel Festival Network, which promotes the Festival. Festival chairmaa Dan Halperin, who has been in the joh for nine years, was contemplating whether it was time to move on. but decided to stick it out for at least anoth-

er year, since next year's festival will be part of the jubilee celebrations of the state. Marian

Ofra Haza WHEN (Yaki Haiperin) Levin-Epstein invited Marlin and Betty

Levin for supper prior to their leaving for America for the Hadassah national convention, the veteran Time magazine reporter: and his wife had no reason to suspect that they were going to have anything more than a quiet meal with an old friend. But then they started bumping into other friends. whose parting remark was: "See, you at Marian's." Levin-Epstein had organized a surprise party to celebrate the Levins 50th wedding anniversary.

Most of the guests knew the. Levins from their Zionist youth movement days in the US. Marlin Levin recalled that when they left for Palestine, six weeks after their wedding. people asked when they would be coming back. "When the honeymoon is over," was his reply. Considering that they're still here, it must be some honey moon! -

BEING the nepbew of the sixth president of Israel and the grandson of a former chief rabbi afforded no special consideration for Yitzhak Herzog when he came to Beit Hanassi for the 21st annual prizegiving ceremony of the Council for a Beautiful Israel of which his aunt. Aura Herzog, is the international president. An over-zealous policeman would not allow the cab in which he had arrived to linger momentarily outside the presidential residence while Herzog paid the bill, and he had to ride almost to the next corner before the policeman

Television talk-show hostess Haya



Tom Cruise

Yosef was over 70 when interviewed for the job. Someone was specially flown in from England to assess the applicants. "And what have you got to offer?" he asked her. "My age and my experience" was the prompt reply. One of those qualifications may not have been exactly what he was looking for, but he decided to give her a chance anyway, and Yosef has been merrily chatting away for nearly five years.

DESPITE the difficulties involved, Tom Cruise and his wife Nicole Kidman seem to have succeeded quite well in the area of planned parenthood. They have two adopted children, Isabella, four, and Connor, two. Now they're trying for a third child in London where Cruise is shooting a new film.

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 \mathcal{L} 'expression

ACROSS

1 Bag duck, say, and face criticism (3,3,4)

6 Threesome not lacking in patriotism (4) 9 This writer should get his subject dead right (10)

10 Working with the church in the past (4) 12 His employers have him

over a barrel (6) 13 Curious to reveal what gives Americans a lift (8) 15 Under way, with no visible

means of support? (3,3,6) 18 Evens—can colt fail for better? (12) 21 Dismissed a Commons

member, one gassy and explosive (8) 22 Fast road laid in purpla

27 Whera one may cough politely, say, being late? (6-4)

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

24 Love girl with rounded

25 The sphere of tha

underwater explorer (6-4)

sbape (4)

26 Two-piece? (4)

THE OTHER PLAYS

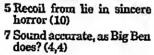
THE PIANO

DOWN

1 Complain, unable to finish Marx (6) 2 His work should suit you

3 Unstable construction, so

UFO crashed, alas (5,2,5) 4 Carried. without elaboration (4)



8 Finished journey, using manual control (8)

11 Ate too much that was spoiled (12) 14 Make efficient conrse

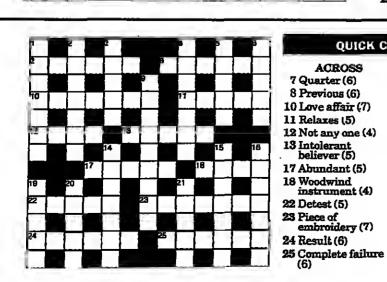
under water (10) 16 Builders' platform once fatal to many (8)

17 Nice ears-awful to have wax (8)

19 Came in to restore place of entertainment (6) 20 Made watertight, to be conducted under ocean (6)

23 Many in one car (4)

SOLUTIONS



QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS 7 Quarter (6) 8 Previous (6) 10 Love affair (7)

11 Relaxes (5) 12 Not any one (4) 13 Intolerant believer (5)

17 Abundant (5) 18 Woodwind instrument (4) 22 Detest (5)

23 Piece of embroidery (7) 19 Sprinted (5)

DOWN l Insult (7) 2 Increase (7) 3 Sharp wound (5) 4 American whisky

5 Gather together 6 Lively (5) 9 Trapeze artist (9)

14 Hold closely (7) 15 Put an end to (7) 16 Car component (7)

20 Cooks (5)

21 Circuit (5)



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BUSINESS&FINANCE

HIGH TECH

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Emultek receives \$1m. from Doerge

Chicago-based venture capital fund Doerge Capital Management has invested \$1 million in Emultek of Jerusalent. Emultek develops software tools designed to accelerate the process of developing electronic products. Earlier in the month. Emailek announced another \$1m. placement from Simon and wiesel.

IBM announces Hebrew version of Notes

Lotus, a subsidiary of IBM (Israel), has an nunced that the next version of Notes, Notes 5.0, will be available in Hebrew toward the end of the year or the beginning of 1998. Notes is one of the leading softwares used to manage announcements over the Internet and intranets.

lpex signs \$1m. deal with NSW

lpex of Israel recently received a \$1m. order to provide Japan's Nippon Systemware with its interactive, digital video program, Active-V. According to the terms of the deal, NSW will market lpex's products via an original equipment manufacturer agreement.

Lanoptics to buy back shares

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and the second

1 Table

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Lanoptics Lio., a Midgal Ha emak-based maker of actworking solutions, yesterday announced that its stockholders approved a proposal that would allow the company to buy back up to 10% of its shares. Lanoptics recently gained approval from the Tel Aviv District Court, becoming the first Israeli company to reputchase its shares. The company has 6.1 million outstanding shares.

Orbotech receives \$4.5m. order from Merix

Orbotech recently announced it received a \$4.5m, order for its automated optical inspection systems from Merix, a manufacturer of prioted circuit boards. Based in Yavne, Orbotech's automated optical inspection systems are designed to maximize accuracy in the manufacture of printed circuit boards. Merix, which is headquartered in Massachusetts, provides printed circuit boards to the communications, computer, industrial, and medical instrumentation markets.

Scitex appoints three new directors

. Scitex Corporation Ltd., the embattled maker of communication products, announced the appointment of three new directors: Sasson Somekh, a senior vice president at Applied Materials, Inc.; Roger Gallois, a senior vice president of Groupe Bull; and Rimon Ben-Shaul, president of Clal Industries Ltd. The changes follow the company's decision to streamline its board of directors.

May trade deficit \$685m.

By Jerusalem Post Staff

The trade deficit (excluding tradewith the Palestinian Authority) totalled \$685 milbon through the end of May, according to data published yesterday by the Central

Bureau of Statistics.
Imports stood at \$2.38 billion and exports \$1.590. In receol months imports have continued declining at some 0.15 percent to 0.33% a month texcluding diamonds and pearokum), which represents a 3% yearly rate. This decline is somewhat smaller than that recorded in the second haif last year (a monthly 1.3%).

Exports, meanwhile, remain steady in volume, a trend that has

continued throughout the first five months of the year. Exports increased a monthly 0 6% in the sec ond half of 1996 (excluding dia-

As a result of these two trends, the trade deficit has shrunk at a monthly 0.8% this year, compared to an monthly average 5% decline in the second haif of 1996.

Imports in May comprised petroleum and diamonds (27%), other raw materials (45%), machinery and vehicles for investments (15%), and consumer goods (13%).

Of exports, 68% were industrial products and software, 4% agricultural goods and the remainder dia-

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Price controls lifted on dairy staples

Eitan: Israel aiming to become a key exporter to the Far East

Price restrictions on a variety of dairy products are lifted from today as the government attempts to open the industry to increased competition. Finance Minister Dan Meridor and Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan announced yesterday.

This is likely to lead to cheaper prices for consumers and, as production costs should fall. Eitan said he is examining ways of making Israel a major exporter of dairy goods, particularly to the Far East.

The lifting of price controls is aimed at breaking up the existing industry monopolies and cartels. Treasury figures suggest Thuva holds 70 percent of the overall market, Strauss and Tene Noga a further 20%. with the smaller players competing for the

remaining 10%. Initially the lifting of restrictions will be

in place for seven months,

Meridor appealed to consumers to look very carefully at product prices over the comine seven months, saying they can help in the attempt to bring prices down and introduce full competition.

"In the US, if ioniatoes are too expensive and consumers don't buy them for two weeks, the prices come down," said Eitan. "Until now, we haven't had that sort of mentality here."

The government has set aside several hundred thousand shekels for an advertising campaign encouraging people to check

The restrictions are not being lifted on basic products such as milk in plastic bags. cottage cheese 15% fat), leben, and eshel."

There is still a justification to restrictions where there is no competition," said

It is still uncertain how the lifting of restrictions will affect the market, which is why the ministers called for consumers to help in their campaign. The Central Bureau of Statistics has been enlisted to keep a mouth-by-month check on prices.

The new regulations were immediately welcomed by Israel Dairy Board directorgeneral Avshalom Dolev.

"We expect a very positive trend as a τesult," he said.

He said he does not expect dramatic changes in the short-term as a result, but rather benefits in the long-term as the market opens to competition, making companies more efficient.

"I believe the dairy market will have a nest image, similar to that of western Europe and the US," he said.

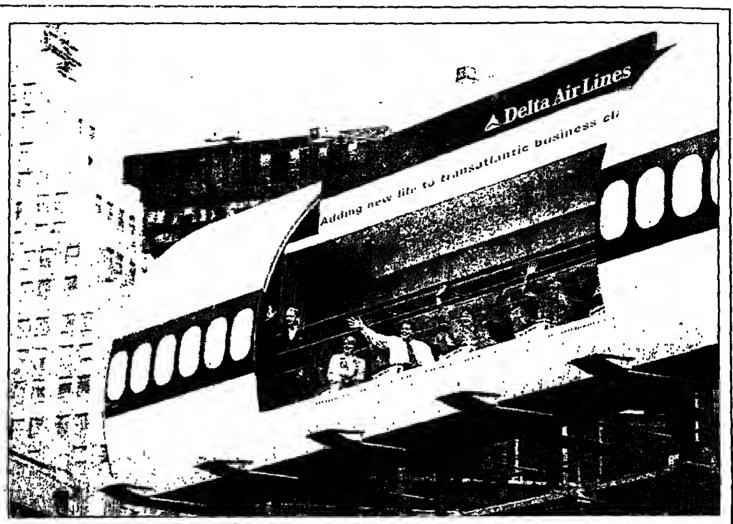
If production prices drop, as the government expects, Eitan would then want Israel

to become a major exporter. Currently, almost 100% of dairy products are sold on the home market. Having just participated in a food exhibition in Bangkok, the Agriculture Ministry believes there is an excellent opportunity to begin exporting to the Far East.

h's impossible to say what percentage of total production could be exported," said Eilan. "I hope that we can innovate and push, so that our products will appear on Far East markets,"

With the opening of the Israeli dairy sector to imports, demand for domestically produced goods is diminishing and consequently farmers must begin looking at over-seas markets, said Doley.

Meridor and Eitan will reassess the regulations in seven months, when they will decide whether to continue the policy or reven to full price restriction.



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Guests and crew wave from a 'living hillboard,' a reptica of a Delta jetliner near Times Square in New York. People appear in the cabin during morning and evening rush hours.

Bank of Israel to propose basic central bank law

By DAVID HARRIS

The Bank of Israel will within days pass recommendations for the introduction of a basic central bank law and creation of a board of monetary experts to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Finance Minister Dan Meridor, according to central bank spokesman Gabriel Fiszman.

Facing increasing calls for internal reform, bank governor Jacob Frenkel is now supporting plans for a board of experts 10 aid him in achieving the govern-

ment-set monetary targets. The document to be handed to the government will call for the creation of a basic law for the

bank to replace the existing Bank

of Israel Law passed in 1954. While these recommendations are being finalized. Knesset

Finance committee members, led by Avraham Shohai (Labor), are preparing their own bill for introduction to the Knesset. This bill will propose the creation of a board of six governors, three of whom will be bank appointees, with the remainder holding independent status.

Frenkel has so far not indicated his preferred make up of the monetary board, that information will be contained in the report he submits to Neinnyahu and Meridor. However, be recently said the creation of a board will. if anything, increase the independence of the bank, rather than diminish it, as MKs such as

Shohat appear to favor. As the central bank sees it, any reform of such a fundamental nature musi come with the full approval of the government and not at the initiation of opposition politicians.

The document will have several key principles at its heart; the guarantee of full independence for the central bank; the guarantee of transparency and accountability to the government, Knesset, and public; the establishment of a decision-making framework within the bank,

The overall aim, according to Frenkel, is for the Bank of Israel to follow Western European models, where independence of the bank is guaranteed in law.

Japanese delegation to arrive Monday

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

A delegation of senior executives from six Japanese computer companies is expected to arrive Monday for a five-day tour of Israel's computer industry, said a spokesperson from Jerusalem Global Ltd., which is hosting the visit,

Representatives from NEC. Toshiba, Fujitsu, Hitachi, Matsushita, and Oki will visit a number of undisclosed Israeli companies, research institutes, and technological incubators and meet with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Minister of Industry and Trade Natan Sharansky.

The is the most senior delegation of Japanese computer industry representative to ever visit Israel, said Shlomo Kalish. Jerusalem Global's CEO. Of the six visiting companies, only NEC has a previous investment

Israelis are hoping this visit might rekindle Japan's interest in Israeli high-tech companies. Recently, a slowdown in the peace process and increased concerns regarding the Arab boycon have tempered Japan's

local activities. This could signal a milestone in renewed relations between Japan and Israel," said Amikam Levanon, manager of Jerusalem Global's Japan related activi-

Bilaieral trade between the two countries totalled \$2.2 billion in 1996. Most of Israel's exports to lapan are in dia-

monds. Tatsuo Tanaka, the executive director of the Japanese Electronics Industry Development Association, will lead the

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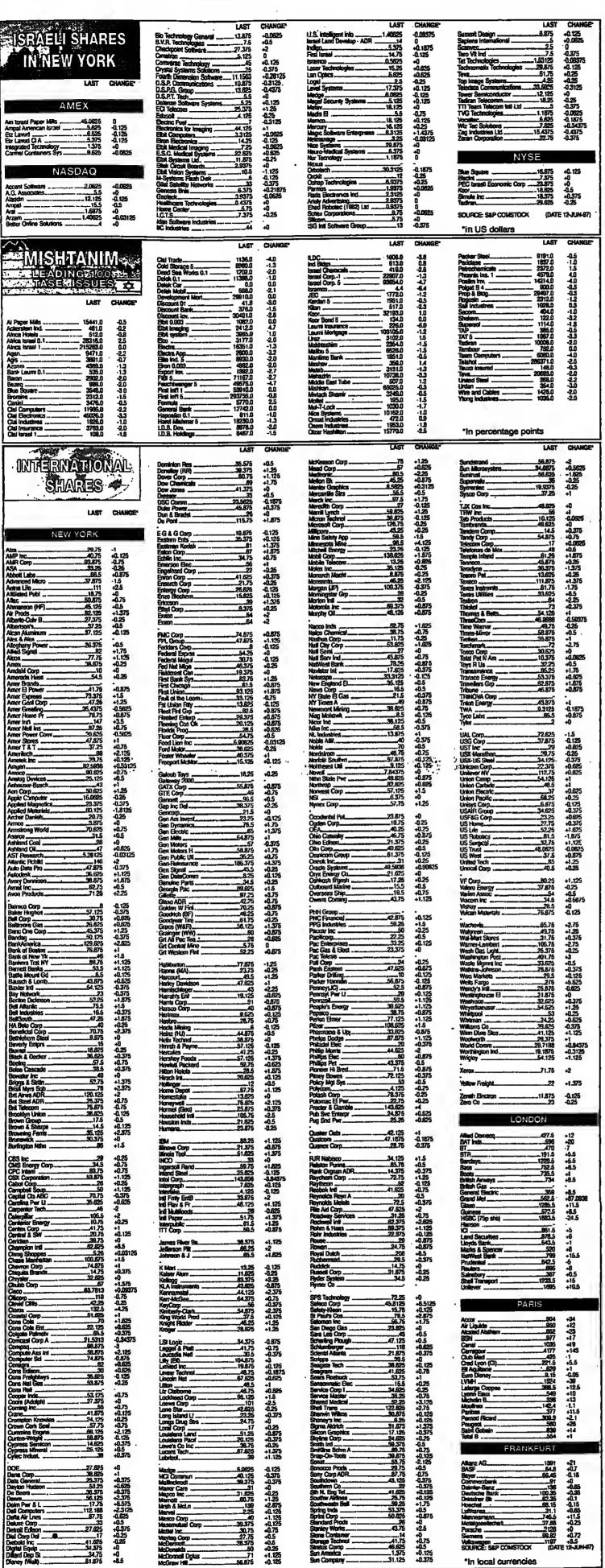
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Shares down on profit-taking

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Shares closed lower across the board yesterday io what traders termed a much-needed correction. The Mishtanim index of the top 100 shares fell 1.49 percent, or 4.37 points, to 288.26 on a very heavy all-share turnover of NIS

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207 million, against NIS 260m. on Monday, the last day of trading before Shavuot. The Maof 25 blue chip index

closed 1.50% lower at 296.20. What we saw today was aggressive profit-taking after the market made a very big move upward during the last two months. It's about time for technical correction. The market can not go in just one direction," said Ron Weisberg of IBI Investment

"This is a healthy consolidation," a trader at Bank Hapoalim He said the correction might

House

continue several more days. Weisberg added that activity is expected to be relatively low on Sunday ahead of the release of the May consumer price index. 'Ón Monday it's a new ball

game. If the figure is at the lower range of expectations the probability for a rate cut is high," he said. The most active shares were Bank Leumi, which fell 1.25% to 535 agorot on turnover of NIS 12.8m.; Bank Hapoalim, which lost 1.0% to 811 agorot on volume NIS 12.4m.; and Koor Industries, which gained 1.0% to 32,193 agorot on volume of NIS

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

Dollar climbs, European bourses end with big gains

LONDON (Reuter) - The dollar ended European trading up nearly three yen yesterday as worries of a Washington-Tokyo trade rift receded, while Europe's bourses closed with big gains lifted by another record-breaking performance on Wall Street. The US currency clawed back

recent heavy losses and surged by four yen in early trade after a senior Japanese official eased market fears over trade tension with the United States. It paused for breath in late afternoon, slipping back slightly.

In equities, European bourses were boosted by US figures showing subdued inflationary pressures, which sent the Dow Jones industrials soaring by one percent to an intra-day record of 7661.70 points, after four consecutive record closes.

London closed at a record and Frankfurt's computerized IBIS index was driven up nearly 2% to a trading peak. Paris stocks were given an extra lift as anxiety faded over possible disruption to the timetable for the launch of Europe's single currency.

WALL STREET REPORT

Dow hits another record

NEW YORK (AP) - Stocks ... Market participants were effurocketed to record highs for the fifth consecutive session yesterday, as a weak May retail-sales report erased any vestige of fear that the Federal Reserve would soon raise interest rates.

The stock market also benefited from a report that net cash flows into equity funds rose 18 percent

The Dow Jones industrial aver-7,711.47.

> **GAZA** Continued from Page 1

Southern Command spokesman said shots were fired at an IDF vehicle near the Gush Katif junction, and one bullet entered the vehicle, but no injuries were reported. He also said that settlers fixed shots toward Palestinian demonstrators; no injuries were reported.

The IDF poured additional troops into the area and moved Merkava tanks into positions some three or four kilometers from the junction in case the violence escalated.

OC Gaza Brig.-Gen. Yoav Gallant said that toward nightfall the Gush Katif junction had been opened and, although calm had been restored to the area, the situation was tense and

He warned the IDF would be ordered in if Palestinian forces failed to prevent another outbreak of violence. Reinforcements have been sent into the Gush Katif area. Gallant, who took command in Gaza last month, said that the Palestinian Authority was asked to rein in the rioters and that his forces nearly took the offensive when it appeared the Palestinian police were failing to contain them.

They have the responsibility, so they have to carry it out, otherwise we'll be forced to do so. I have to say that we were very close to it today and we restrained ourselves, because it could have developed into an incident with gunfire, which doubles the number of injured," Gallant said in an interview with Army

"To my regret, the Palestinians are not behaving as a group. Some of them, either intentionally or unintentionally, are taking actions which their commanders do not necessarily instruct them to," Gallant said.

He said the IDF would continue to ensure that Jewish residents of Gush Katif would be able to travel freely. Yesterday morning, hundreds of

Palestinians entered Morag, south of Khan Yimis, and tore down a fence recently erected near the hothouses to prevent robberies. The Palestinians, who at first demonstrated outside the settlement, pushed the fence down and proceed-ed to plant olive trees and put up Palestinian flags, claiming the fence had been erected on their land.

sive in their praise of the market's performance. Some were merely. amazed, "I'm dumbfounded," said Hugh Johnson, market strategist at First Albany Corp.

One cause for celebration on Wall Street was that despite some continued stickiness in computerrelated stocks, secondary stocks in, general have caught fire along with the blue chips, said Bill Securities.

The IDF, which denied the charges, surrounded . Palestinians, preventing them from entering further into the settlement. Rioting broke out, and troops fired rubber bullets and tear gas to disperse the rioters, injuring three Palestinians. Karwari suffered a beart attack and reportedly died in hospital in Khan Yunis later in the

Gush Katif spokesman Shlome-Kostiner said male members of the settlement immediately armed themselves, but women and children continued going about their daily affairs. He estimated the oumber of Palestinians who entered the settlement as close to 1,000.

A few hours later calm was restored to the area but a large IDF presence remained. Meanwhile, Palestinians blocked

the Gush Katif junction, stoning Israeli vehicles shortly before a ceremony to dedicate the junction in the name of Sgt. Yehuda Levy and unveil a memorial there was due to start. Levy was killed by a Palestinian sniper last September in the rioting that broke out after the opening of the Western Wall Tunnel

During the ceremony Palestinians jeered, honked homs, and harassed those attending. Sharon, who had spent the morning touring the area, meeting with residents, and attending a ceremony to mark the end of the upgrading of the main Gush Katif road, also attended ceremony.

Also present was MK Bermy Elon (Moledet), whose car windows were smashed by Palestinians. Sharon, Elon, and settlers pointed a finger in the direction of the PA.

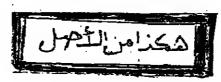
charging the outbreak of violence was carefully planned and not a spontaneous outbreak The IDF Spokesman said last

night that Gush Katif was opened to traffic, adding that nine Israeli vehicles were damaged by stones.

Meanwhile, Kostmer said settlers

in Morag were holding a general meeting last night to discuss the situation and decide what steps they would take.

Jon Immanuel adds: Military sources said that the PA had no right to act surprised by the Israeli action because it was rold at a meeting earlier this week that a fence and a monument would be established in land belonging to



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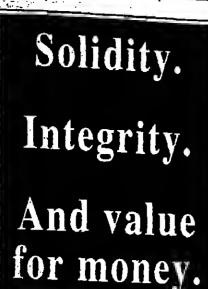
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Derech Ramalayim, Hod Hasharon, 740-6761. Netenya: Hanassi, 36 Weizmann, 882-3639. Halfa: Hanassi, 33 Hanassi, 833-3312.

Krayot area: Kupat Hotim Clalit Zevulun, 192 Derech Akko, Kiryat Bialik, 678-7816. Herzliya: Clai Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Scierot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 955-8472, 955-8407. Open 9 a.m. Upper Nazareth: Clai Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 657-0468. Open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, June 14 Jerusalem: (day) Kupet Holim Clalit, Straus A. 3 Avigdori, 870-6660; (evening) Center Pharm, Yed Harutzim, 673-1475; Iday and evening) Balsam, Salah e-Din, 627-2315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 561-0108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 628-2058.Tel Aviv: Shlomo Hamelech, 228-Shlomo Hamelech, 524-6461; Brlut, 28 King George, 528-3731. Till midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, Ramat Aviv, 641-3730; Superpharm

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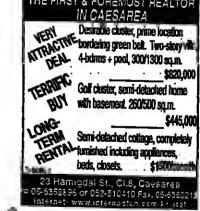
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BGU denies involvement in nuclear weapons

Responding to recent US govemment accusations, Ben-Gurion University denied yesterday any involvement in nuclear weapons research.

research

Last month, the US Commerce Department placed the university at the top of a list of foreign entities believed to be engaged in the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The department asked US companies selling high-performance computers to the university to apply for an export license. Such sales were previously unrestricted. Yigal Ronen, e professor at BGU's nuclear engineering department, said the staff is not involved

in nuclear weapons research. "All of our nuclear research has to do with peaceful uses of nuclear power and of course ell our findings are published in the profes-sional literature." Ronen told Israel Radio.

"This American policy is nothing new," Ronen said. "They have had this illogical policy continually since the early 1980s, when our nuclear scienusts were barred from cooperation projects relating to nuclear power for peaceful uses."

Ben-Gurion is the only university in Israel with a nuclear engineering department.

The Labor Party's new chairman, Ehud Barak, yesterday made his way to the Tel Aviv bureau of Trade and Industry Minister Natan Sharansky, ostensibly to "estab-

with him.

The one concrete result of the meeting was that both Sharansky and Barak vowed to continue their contacts and Barak praised Sharansky as "the head of a very important party and a very serious

man, Barak refused to answer reporters' queries about being used as Sharansky's whip against Netanyahu, and Sharansky reported that the nearly hour long meeting "covered the entire gamut of issues before Israel today - from socioeconomic matters to foreign

policy."

The meeting's significance, agree political observers, is not so much in what was discussed in it. as in the very fact that it was held, and especially at a ome in which Sharansky is making no bones

religious parties. Barak has put in a request for a meeting with Shas mentor Rabbi Ovadia Yosef.

Barak yesterday appealed to all Labor political bureau members to send him their suggestions in writing about how to bring down the Netanyahu government and improve Labor's own image and standing.

Yesterday was the first bureau session which Barak chaired as the new party leader. He formally informed the bureau that he is assuming all the authority of the secretary-general for the next four months, by the end of which time he hopes to decide whether the party will continue to have a secretary-general or whether he will take a leaf out of Netanyahu's

book and instead appoint a director-general. The secretary-general is e political position which carries great weight and clout, and which necessitates an election inside the party. The director-general is an administrative appointee who deals solely with the organizational aspects of the party management, and is separated entirely

sideranons. Barak had announced already on Sunday that he is appointing himself as caretaker secretary-general for the coming four months. The current secretary-general, Nissim Zvilli, had tendered his resignetion and it goes into effect Sunday. At that point Barak will take over, amid criticism in some Labor quarters that he is concentrating

Women sing at memorial for officers

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN Women sang yesterday at a memorial event for two officers killed in

the line of duty, despite attempts by rabbis to bar them. Rabbis had attempted to keep women from singing, and even appearing at the event. They said they had won Defense Ministry backing, but the decision was rescinded following a public outcry, particularly from The event was held yesterday afternoon at the Yatir forest, west of Arad, by the Defense Ministry's Youth and Nahal Branch. It was dedicated to two battalion commanders who were killed: LL-Col. Shaul

Adiv, who fell in Lebanon, and Lt.-Col. Meir Miutz, who was killed in at increasing motivetion among youth. It was to have culminated with a performance by a coed Alfei Menashe youth cboir. But the choir was

LL-Col. (res.) Avi Ronitzky, head of the army preparatory yeshiva at Yatir, defended his opposition to women performing, saying Halacha

the Defense Mioistry accepted our request." Ronitzky initially tried to block the performance of the IDF band. since it contained women and the Defense Ministry even agreed to that

"The conditions they have sel are unacceptable and rotten," said Ayshalom Wallin, secretary-general of Hakibbutz Ha'artzi. This symbolized an attempt by religious extremists to impose their will on the Israeli public at large, and I hope that a coalition between secular and religious groups will repel this."

male Oriental group performed. Later, however, the Southern Command's troupe took the stage, with both male and female singers

among youth by setting up a settlement at Yatir.



(Eli Dasa, courtesy of Ma'ariv) Barak meets with Sharansky

By SARAH HONIG

lish a channel of communications"

But though the meeting had been scheduled several weeks ago, the participants could not ignore the fact that it coincided with the greatest tiff thus far between Sharansky and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.

about his rift with Netanyahu. This was one is a series of meetings with coalition parties' chiefs which Barak has planned, as part of his strategy to assault the Netanyahu government's own

from political and factional con-

far too much power in his own strongholds. Also on his schedule are get-togethers with heads of the

despite attempted ban

The day featured orienteering runs in the forest and other events aimed

bars men from hearing the sound of women singing. "I don't want to impose a lifestyle on anyone," Ronitzky said. "I head an institution that lives according to Halacha. The issue was simple and

But that decision was withdrawn following a public protest.

Hundreds of soldiers from the Givati, Golani, and Nahal brigades attended the program, as did Gadna youth from over a dozen cities. The IDF band played, but instead of the Alfei Menashe youth choir, an all-

Ironically, the Youth and Nahal Branch boped to boost Zionist values

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the Jewish people dear will fight to the end to ensure the

Conservatives do not have a place

in the state. I am against violence,

but those who are pained some-

Minister Yigal Bibi said that if the

Conservative group tried to hold a

prayer service with men and

wonten together, it was indeed a

provocative act, but no one has the

right to take the law into bis/her

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid called

upon Internal Security Minister

Avigdor Kahalani to ensure there

is no more haredi violence in the

Religious Affairs

times lose control."

own hands.

3 coalition parties refuse to promise support for conversion bill

By LIAT COLLINS

MKs from three coalition parties have refused to promise their support for the conversion bill until all compromise solutions have been exhausted.

Members of the Third Way, Tsomet and Yisrael Ba'aliya (which is in the middle of its own coalition wrangle with the government) were speaking following the rejection by the National Religious Party of all the compromixes suggested so far, despite the support for the possible solutions by the haredi parties.

The Knesset Law Committee, chaired by Shaul Yahalom (NRP), is scheduled to resume preparing the conversion bill next week for passage before June 30, when, in the absence of a Knesset deciaion, the High Court will rule whether non-Orthodox conversions carried out in Israel will be recognized or whether the current situation, in which only Orthodox conversions performed here and all conversions carried out abroad are recognized, will continue.

There will be no automatic voting by us." Yisrael Ba'aliya faction chairman Roman Bronfman said. "Until all the compromise possibilities have been exhausted, the issue should not be brought to the vote."

Bronfman said his party's vote depends partly on its relationship with the coalition. Last week.

Yisrael Ba'aliya announced it would not be bound by coalition lines in votes because of what Bronfman described as "gross violations" of the coalition agreements with it.



Shaul Yahalom

"Our goal is to find a compromise," Tsomet faction chairman Zandberg said. "Otherwise, each person will vote

as they see fit." In this case, Tsomet would probably be divided, as it was in the first reading, he said.

"I am obligated to the unity of the Jewish people no less than to the unity of the coalition," said Alex Lubotsky (Third Way), who has been trying to find a solution to the dilemma. "It does not seem reasonable for the NRP to veto a compromise that both extremes are willing to accept."

Yahalom has rejected the latest suggestion, raised by coalition and Likud faction chairman Michael Eitan, last week. This combines the proposal that all converts receive ciuzenship under the Citizenship Law, rather than the Law of Return, and that instead of the clause for religion on identity cards, there will be a clause for "desired religion," where converts could be listed as "Jewish" without it representing official recognition of their Jewishness.

Yahalom said the proposal would insult and embarrass converts - which is halachicly forbidden - and the change in identity cards could harm the Jewish nature of the state. He is demanding the law be passed, as agreed in the coalition agreement.

Haim Shapiro adds: Representatives Conservative and Reform movements are due to meet with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu on Sunday and appear before the

Knesset Law Committee on

Tuesday to discuss possible com-

promises on the bill, Both movements are to include local people- and representatives from abroad in their delegations. Rabbi Einat Ramon, spokeswoman for the Conservative movement, yesterday expressed her disappointment that only rabbis would be appearing before the committee.

Pines bill would compensate victims of religious violence

By LIAT COLLINS and news agencies

MK Ophir Pines (Labor) has submitted a bill which would grant compensation to "victims of religious violence" via the property tax, the same way that victims of nationalist attacks can seek compensation.

Pines said the bill is intended "to make the state relate to a Jewish stone the way it does to an Arab one. Lately, we've seen more and more violent incidents on religious grounds, particularly stonethrowing at cars traveling on Shabbat. The damage caused by a

at the holy site was a "provocation. What are they looking for "Whoever holds collectivity of

stone thrown by a Jew is the same **EYEWITNESS**

By MARNE ROCHESTER I now know what sinat hinam,

And, ironically, it was at the Kotel that I experienced it. After a night of studying, about 100 non-Orthodox Jews gathered at the Kotel for Shavuot prayers and to celebrate the giving of the Torah. We tried to find a place off to the side so as not to antagonize

senseless hatred, is first hand.

the haredim. But they found us. At the beginning there were a few hecklers, but then their numbers grew. The police came over to try to protect us from them.
About halfway through the reading of the Book of Ruth, the police requested that the women

secular extremism.

lar education," he said.

take off their talliloi to try to calm down the haredim. It didn't work. The police then told us to hurry up. They weren't sure how much

from the Torah, they attempted to drown us out. I tried reading louder and they got louder and louder. They were getting more aggressive. The atmosphere was very volatile, and again the police came over, this time they told us we would have to move.

They cleared a path for us, and it was then that I saw what the police were protecting us from. There were thousands of haredim - up and down the stairs and balconies and surrounding us shouting at us in English and "Goyim." Hebrew, "Nazis," "Go "Reform Jews go away," and

"You're worse than the Nazis." They were spitting and throwing things on us and the Torah. A little girl got hit in the head with a rock.

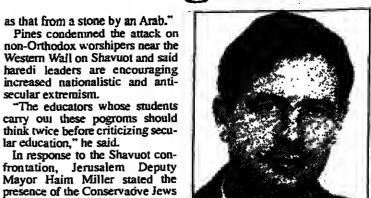
Learning about 'sinat hinam' longer they could hold off the haredini. While I was reading escort us out, they tried to get to us and started pushing the police and soldiers, who then had to push

back. I've never been so frightened and saddened. Eventually, we continued praying with only a few shouts from passersby and a few people looking on curiously. At one point when someone shouted "Nazis" at us, he was immediately rebuked by an Orthodox woman who told hint to stop and said to him.

esie:

They're Jews!" We did manage to finish praying, with one policeman keeping an eye on things.

At the conclusion, it was suggested by one of the sabras in our group that we sing "Hatikva." Wondering if there really is hope, we sang with tears in our eyes.



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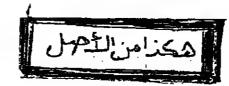
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MEVASSERET ZION G.G. GIL

Shine∞The Chamber Sat. 8:45, 11; weekdays 4:45, 7:15, 10

Sling Blada Fri. 10; Sat., weekdays 7:15, 10 - Beauthut Thing Fri. 2:30, 12:30 a.m; 53: 2:30 - Trainsporting Thu. 12:30 a.m.

TEL AVIV

Head Above Water-Kolya-Blood and Wine Fri. 11 a.m., 1:30, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 3, 5, 7:45, 10; weekdays 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:45, 10

Hamlet Fri. 9:45; Sat., weekdays 4, 8:30

The People vs Larry Flynt Sat., week-days 5:30, 7:45, 10

G.G. HOD 1-4 = 5226228 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengolf St. Beavis and Butt-head Fri. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 - Marco Polo Fri. 70, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 11:30 a.m., 2, 5:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 - Relic-The Chamber Fri. 10, 12:30 a.m., Sat. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 - Space

10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 - Space Jamo-Lier Lier 1Set. 1:30 a.m., 2,5

The English Patient Fri. 11 a.m., 2, 9:30, 12 midnight; Sat. 1:30, 4:45, 6:30, 10; weekdays 11 a.m., 1:45, 5, 6:30, 9:30 - Shine Fri. 12:30, 2:30, 10, 12:30 a.m.; 2, 8

Shine Fri. 12:30, 2:30, 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 2, 4:30, 8; weekdays 11 a.m., 2, 8, 10 • Secrets and Lies Fri. 11:45 a.m., 9:45; Sat. 7:15, 10; weekdays 11:15 a.m., 2, 4:30, 7:15, 10 • A Self-Made Hero Fri. 2, 10; Sat. 8, 10; weekdays 4, 6, 10 • The Prisoner of the Mountains Fri. 12 noon; Sat. 4, 8, 10; weekdays 11:30 a.m., 4:30, 8 • Beautifut Thing Fri. 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 1:45; weekdays 1 • The Pillow Book Fri. 2:30; Sat. 2, 4:45 • Trainsporting Fri. 12:15 a.m.

G.G. PE'ER Lar Lar-Ridicule-Wedding Bell Blues Fri. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sai. 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 - Vertigo Fri. 9:45, 12:30 a.m.; Sai. 7:15, 10; week-days 4:45, 7:15, 10 - The Chamber Fri. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sai., weekdays 7:30, 10 -Marco Polo weekdays 5

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GORDON

12:15 a.m. G.G. PE'ER

≖ 5618168

Liar Liar Sat. 6:45, 11; weekdays 5, 7:15

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R. William Str. of Con-

Dates, July e-10, 1997) Tel. 02-671-2591

RAV-CHEN
Dizempoff Center
Con Air Fri. 7:45, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45, 12:15 a.m.; weekdays 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Absolute Power Fri. 7:30, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 - 10:1 Daimattans Fri. 7:45; Sat. 11 a.m.; 2:30, 5; weekdays 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 - 10:1 Daimattans Fri. 7:45; Sat. 11 a.m.; 2:30, 5; weekdays 2:30, 5, 7:30 - Maximum Risk Fri. 7:45, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat., weekdays 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Sat., weekdays 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Sat., weekdays 2:30, 5, 7:15, 9:45 - Jerry Maguire Fri. 7:15, 9:45 - Empire Strikes Back-The Hunchback of Notre Dame (h-lebrew dialogue) Sat. 11 a.m. - Return of the Jedic-Homeward Bound B-Matilda Sat. 11 a.m. **RAV-OR 1-5** RAV-OR 1-5
Opera House
Everyone Says I Love You-Ghosts of
Everyone Says I Love You-Ghosts of
the Past Fri. 10, 12:15 a.m. Sat. 2:30, 5,
7:30, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:30, 9:45 Donnia Brasco Fri. 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat.
2:30, 5, 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:15,
9:45 • Sting Baide Fri. 9:45, 12:15 a.m.;
Sat. 2, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 4:30,
7:15, 9:45 • Crash Fri. 12:15 a.m.; Sat.
2:30, 5, 7:30; weekdays 5, 7:30, 9:45

G.G. TEL AVIV

85 Pinsker St. Llar Llar∞The Saint∞Drive Fri. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10

TEL AVIV MUSEUM When the Cat's Away Fri. 10; Sat. 2, 8, 10; weekdays 5, 8, 10

HAIFA CINEMA CAFÉ AMAM! # 8326755 Secrets and Lies Fri. 10:15; Sat., week-days 7 - Empire of the Senses Sat., weekdays 9:30 - Breaking the Waves Fri. 10:15; Sat., weekdays 9:30

134 134 Sat. 6:45, 11: weekdays 5, 7:15, 9:45 - The Sainto-Wedding Bell Blues Sat. 8:45, 11: weekdays 5, 7:15, 9:45 - Drive-The Chamber Sat. 8:45, 11: weekdays 5, 7:15, 9:45 - Blood and Wine weekdays 7:15, 9:45 - Marco Polo weekdays 5 - Head Above Water Sat. 8:45, 11: weekdays 7:15, 9:45 - Space Jam wackdays 5 - Beavis and Buti-head Sat. 8:45, 11: weekdays 5, 7:15, 9:45 GLOBECTY Wedding Beit Blues--Liar Liar--Beavis and Buti-head Fri. 7:30, 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sai. 11:30 a.m.; 4:45, 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 • The Saint Sai. 11:30 a.m., 4:45; weekdays 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 • The Chember Fri. 7:30, 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sai. 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

MORIAH #6843654 Shine Frt. 10:15, 12:15 a.m.; SeL, week-days 7, 9:30

8381868 The English Patient Fri. 10; Set. 6:30, 9:30; weekdays 8, 9:15

PANORAMA
Ligr Lier Fri. 8, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 11
a.m., 5, 7, 9:30; weekdays 4:30, 7, 9:30 Head Above Water Fri. 8, 10, 12:15
a.m.; Sat., weekdays 7, 9:30 - Space Jam
Sat. 11 a.m., 5; weekdays 4:30 - Kolya
Fri. 8, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 5, 7, 9:30;
weekdays 4:30, 7, 9:30 - The Nutty
Professor Sat. 11 a.m.

RAV-GAT 1-2 = 8674311 Con Air∞Absolute Power Fri. 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7, 9:30; weekdays 4:30, 7, 9:15

RAV-MOR 1-7

Donnie Brasco-Con Air-Absoluta
Powar Fri, 7:30, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7,
9:30 - Metro Fri. 7:30, 10, 12:15 a.m.;
Sat. 11 a.m., 7, 9:30, 12 midnight; weekdays 4:30, 7,
9:30 - Metro Fri. 7:30, 10, 12:15 a.m.;
Sat. 11 a.m., 7, 9:30 - Ghosts of the Past
Fri. 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat., weekdays 9:30

- The English Patient Fri. 10; Sat. 8:30,
9:30; weekdays 6, 9:15 - 101
Daimatians Fri. 7:45; Sat. 11 a.m., 7:15;
weekdays 4:45, 7, 9:15 - Maximum Risk
Fri. 7:30; Sat. 11 a.m., 7; weekdays 5, 7

- It Takes Two-Return of the
Jedio-Empire Strikes Back-The
Hunchback of Notre Dame (Hebrew
dialogue) Sat. 11 a.m.

RAV-OR 1-3 Domnie Brasco Fri. 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7, 9:30; weekdays 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Metro∞Ghosts of the Past Fri. 10, 12:15 • m.; Sat. 7, 9:30; weekdays 4:30, 7, 9:15 • Return of the Jedi∞Homeward Bound IleEmpire Strikes Back Sat. 11 a.m.

weekdays 6:15, 9:15

ARAD Absolute Power-Orive Fri. 7:30, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10; weekdays 7:15, 9:45 • Kolya Fri. 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 10; weekdays 7:15, 9:45 • The Babysiner Fri. 7:45; Sat. 11:30 a.m. 5 11:30 a.m., 5.

G.G. Gil. = 8647202 The Sainto-Drive Fri. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 • Ridicules Marco Poto Fri. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 • Breaking the Waves Fri. 9:30, 12:30 a.m.; Sat., weekdays 6:30, 9:30

The Chamber-Liar Liar Fri. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10

RAV CHEN #8681120
Con Air-obletro Fri. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 - Ghosts of the Pass-Donnie Brasco-Absolute Power Fri. 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:15, 9:45 - The English Patient Fri. 10; Sat. 8:45, 9:45; weekdays 8:15, 9:15

G.G. GIL #729977 Liar LiarsoDrivesoThe Chamber Fr. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 or The SaintsoMarco Polo Fr. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5,

RAV CHEN
Absolute Power Fri. 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:15, 9:45 - Jerry
Maguire Fri. 9:45, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 - Con
Airo-Metro Fri. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 - The English
Patient Fri. 10; Sat. 6:30, 9:30; weekdays

RAV CHEN HAV CHEN The English Patient Fri. 10; Sat. 6:45, 9:45; weekd3y3 6:30, 9:30 - Con Air-Absolute Power Fri. 7:30, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sal. 7:15, 9:45, 12:15 a.m.; week-

days 5, 7:15, 9:45 • Liar Lier Fn. 7:30, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 11 a.m., 7:30, 9:45, 12:15 a.m.; weekdays 5, 7:30, 9:45, 12:15 a.m.; weekdays 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Metro Fn. 7:30, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat., weekdays 7:15, 9:45 • Two Days in the Vailey Fri. 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat., weekdays 9:45 • 101 Daimatlans Fri. 7:45; Sat. 11 a.m., 7:30; weekdays 5, 7:30 • Ghosts of the Past Fn. 7:30, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:15, 9:45 • Space Jam Fn. 7:45; Sat. 11 a.m.; weekdays 5 • Return of the Jedi Sat. 11 a.m. days 5, 7:15, 9:45 • Liar Liar Fn. 7:30, 10

BEERSHEBA #6440771 G.G. GIL #6440771
Driva Fn. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. weekdays 7:30, 10 - The Chamber-Shine Fn. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 - Breaking the Waves Fn. 9:30, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. , weekdays 6:30, 9:30 - Marce Polo weekdays 5 - Space Jam weekdays 4:45
G.G. ORI #5103111

G.G. URI ±6103111 Liar Liar∝the Saint Fn. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 • Wedding Bell Blues∝ Beavis and Butt-head Fn. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10

RAV-NEGEV 1-4 v6235278
Con Air Fri. 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sai. 7:30, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Absolute
Power Fri. 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sai. 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 4:45, 7:15, 9:45; Yeekdays 8:30, 9:30 - Donnie Brasco
Fri. 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sai. 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:15, 9:45 - Return of the Jedi-Trie dislocation at home and the second (Hebrew dialogue) «Homeward Bound II»Empire Strikes Back Sat, 11 a.m.

EILAT Beavis and Butt-head∞Head Above Water∞Lier Llar Fn. 5, 10, 12:30 a.m.; Set. 5, 7:30, 10; weekdays 7:30, 10

LEV Liar Liar Fri. 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat., week-days 7:30, 10 - The English Patient Fn, 9:30, 12 midnight; Sat., weekdays 6:30, 9:30 - Con Air Fri. 9:45, 12:15 a.m.; Sat., weekdays 7:45, 10 - Absolute Power Fri. 9:45, 12:15 a.m.; Sat., weekdays 7:30, 10

HERZLIYA COLONY Donnie Brasco-Everyone Says I Love You Fri, 10, 12:15 a.m.: Sat. 12 noon. 2:15, 5, 7:45, 10; weekdays 5:30, 7:45, 10

The English Patient Fri. 10; Sat. 7, 10; weekdays 8:45, 9:45

589068
Liar Liar Fri. 7:45, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sal. 11
a.m., 5:30, 7:30, 10: weekdays 7:30, 10 Absolute Power Fri. 10, 12:15 a.m.;
Sal., weekdays 7:30, 10 - Con Air Fri.
7:30, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 5, 7:30, 10
weekdays 7:30, 10 - Space Jam Sat. 11
a.m. - Empire Strikes Back Fri. 7:30;
Sal. 11 a.m., 5

HOD HASHARON

Gil. Liar Llaro-The Chambero-Con Air Fri, 7:30, 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 • The English Patient Fri, 9:30, 12:30 a.m.; Sat., weekdays 8:30, 9:30 • Space Jam Fri. 7:30; Sat. 11:30 a.m., 4:45; weekdays 4:45

CINEMA
The English Patient Fri. 10; Sat. 6:45, 9:45; weekdays 6:15, 9:15 - Con AlroAbsolute Power Fri. 7:45, 10:15; Sat. 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 7, 9:30

KFAR SAVA

G.G: GIL G.G. GIL
Liar Llar≪Con Air∞Wedding Beff
Blues∞Beavis and Butt-head Fri. 7:30,
10, 12:30 a.m., 5at. 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30,
10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 - Absolute
Power Fri. 7:30, 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat.
7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 - Space
Jam Fri. 7:30; Sat. 11:30 a.m. 5; weekdays 4:45 - The English Patient Fri.
9:30, 12:30; Sat., weekdays 6:30, 9:30

KIRYAT BIALIK

Metro-oDrive Fri. 7, 9:30, 12 midnight; Sal. 7, 9:15, 11:45; weekdays 7:15, 9:45

• Beavis and Butt-head Fri. 7, 9:30, 12 midnight; Sal. 11 a.m., 7, 9:15, 11:45; weekdays 7:15, 9:45

• Sal. 7; weekdays 7:15 • Blood and Wine weekdays 7:15, 9:45

• Head Above Water Fri. 9:30, 12 midnight; Sal. 7, 9:15, 11:45; weekdays 7:15, 9:45

• Marco Polo Fri. 7; Sal. 7; weekdays 7:15

• Maximum Riskt Fri. 9:30, 12 midnight; Sal. 9:15; weekdays 7:15, 9:45

• Maximum Riskt Fri. 7, 9:30, 12 midnight; Sal. 11 a.m., 7, 9:15, 11:45; weekdays 7:15, 9:45

• Shine weekdays 9:45

• Liar Llar Fri. 7, 9:30, 12 midnight; Sal. 11 a.m., 7, 9:15, 11:45; weekdays 9:45

• Shine weekdays 9:45

• Liar Llar Fri. 7, 9:30, 12 midnight; Sal. 11 a.m., 7, 9:15, 11:45; weekdays 9:45

#9246823 Absolute Power Drive Fri. 10:30; Sat., weekdays 7:30, 10 - Maximum Risk Fri. 10:30; Sat. 7:30, 10; Sun. Tue., Thu. 7:30. 10; Wed. 10 . Indian Movie Wed. 7

NAHARIYA HEICHAL HATARBUT Absolute Power Fri. 10; Sat., Sun.-Tue. 7, 9:15

Make your weekend a safe one -DRIVE CAREFULLY

CINEMA LISTINGS

UPPER NAZARETH

Marco Polo-Shine-Liar Liar Fn. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sai. 7:30, 10; weekdays 4:30, 7:30, 10 - Absoluta Powar-Oriva-Con Air Fn. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sai. 7:30, 10; weekdays 4:30, 7:30, 10 - The English Patient Fri. 9:30, 12:30 a.m.; Sai., weekdays 6:30.

G.G GIL

NESS ZIONA

G.G. GIL 1-4 # 404729 Liar Liar The Chamber Fn. 10, 12:30 a.m.: Sat. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 · Beavis and Bun-head-Wedding Bell Bluas Fn. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10

NETANYA

G.G. GIL 1-5 #628452 Llar Llar Wadding Ball Bluas Beavis and Bun-head Fn. 10. 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 - Vartigo Fn. 9:45, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 7:15, 10; weekdays 4:45, 7:15, 10 -Tha Chamber weekdays 7:30, 10 • Marco Polo weekdays 5

RAV CHEN #8618570
Con Air Fr., 7:30, 10, 12;15 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 9:45, 12;15 a.m.; weekdays 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Absolute Power Fr., 7:15, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:15, 9:45 - Donnia Brasco Fr., 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:15, 9:45 - Tha English Paliant Fr., 10; Sat. 6:45, 9:45; weekdays 6:20, 9:30 - Raiurn of tha Jedlempire Btrikes Back - Homeward Bound II - The Hunchback of Noire Dama (Hebrew dialogue) Sat., 11 a.m. Dama (Hebrew dialogue) Sat. 11 a.m.

OR AKIVA

RAV CHEN = 6262758 Con Air∞Llar Llar∝Absolute Power Fn. 7:45, 10:15; Sat. 7:15, 9:45; week-days 7, 9:30

OR YEHUDA

G.G. GIL 1-4 Secrats and Lies Liar Ltar Shine Fr. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sal. 7:30, 10; waekdays 5, 7:30, 10 - Breaking tha Waves Fn. 9:30, 12:30 a.m.; Sal., weekdays 6:30, 9:30 - Space Jam weekdays 4:45

PETAH TIKVA

Con Air Fri. 10. 12:30 a.m.; Sai. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 - Absolute Power⊸Tha Saint Sai. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 - Llar Llar Fn. 10, 12:30 a.m

G.G. RAM 1-3 # 9340818 Marco Polo-Ridicute - Marvin'a Room Sal., waekdays 7:30

SIRKIN
The English Patient Sal. 7:15, 10:15;
weekdays 5:30, 9:30 - Spac Jam weekdays 4:45 - Wedding Bell Blues Liar Sal. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10
- Beavis and Butt-head × Donnie
Brasco × The Chamber Sal. 7:30, 10;
weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 weekdays 5, 7:30, 10

RA'ANANA

Kolya Fri. 10; Sai. 9:30; Sun., Wed., Thu. 8:30

PARK Donnie Brasco Fn. 7:30, 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 - Con Air Fn. 7:30, 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sal. 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10; weekdaya 5, 7:30, 10 • Absolute Power Fn. 10. 5, 7:30, 10 • Absolute Power Fn. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat., weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 • Liar Liar Fn. 7:30, 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 • The English Patient Fn. 10; Sat., weekdays 6:30, 9:30 • Space Jam-Return of the Jadt Fn. 7:30; Sat. 11:30 a.m. • Maximum Risk Sat. 11:30 a.m. • Maximum Risk Sat. 11:30

RAMAT GAN RAV-GAN 1-4

RAV-GAN 1-4 #6197121
Absoluta Power Fn. 7:30, 10, 12:15
a.m.; Sat. 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:15, 9:45 • The English Patient Fn. 10; Sat. 6:45, 9:45; waekdays 6:15, 9:30 • Ghoata of the Pasi Fn. 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat., weekdays 9:45 • Donnie Brasco Fn. 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat., 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:15, 9:45 • Beavia and Butt-head Fn. 7:30; Sat. 11 a.m., 7:30; weekdays 5, 7:30 • Space Jam Fn. 8; Sat. 11 a.m. Homeward Bound II×Liar Liar Sat, 11 a.m.

RAV-OASIS 1-3 8730687 Con Alr∞Llar Liar Fri, 7:30, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Metro Fri, 7:30; Sat. 7:30, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:30, 9:45

RAMAT HASHARON KOKHAV Kolya Fri. 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45; weekdays 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 -Space Jam Fn. 7:30; Sat. 11 a.m.

REHOVOT

CHEN Siling Blade Frt. 9:45, 12:15 a.m.; Sal. 11 a.m., 7, 9:45; weekdays 7, 9:45 • A Stat-Made Haro Frt. 9:45; Sal. 11 a.m., 7:30, 9:45; weekdays 7:30, 9:45; Crash Frt. 12:15 a.m.; Sal., weekdays 10 • Kotya Frt. 9:45; Sat. 11 a.m., 7:30 • Marco Polo Frt. 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 11 a.m.; weekdays 5:45 • Haad Above Water Frt. 9:45, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 9:45; weekdays 7:30, 9:45

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Absolute Power of Ghosts of the Past Fn. 7:30, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:15, 9:45 • The English Patient Fn. 10; Sat. 8:45, 9:45;

weekdays 6:15, 9:15 - Con Air Frt. 7:30, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Donnie Brasco Fn. 7:15, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:15, 9:45 - Liar Llar Fn. 7:30, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 11 a.m., 7:30, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:30, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:30, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:30, 9:45; a.m.; Sat. 11 a.m. - Return of the Jedi∞The Hunchback of Notre Dama (Hebrew dialogue) ∞It Takes Two Sat. 11 a.m.

RISHON LEZION

GAL 1-5

Shine∞The Chamber Fn. 10; Sal., weekdays 7:30, 10 - Secrete and Lies Fn. 10; Sal., weekdays 7:15, 10 GlL 1-3 The Chamber Fri. 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. weekdays 7:30. 10 - Space Jam Fn. 7:30; weekdays 5 - Llar Liar Fn. 7:30; 10. 12:30 - a.m.; Sai. 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 - The Saint weekdays 5, 7:30, 10

HAZAHAV

Con Air-Wedding Bell Blues Fn. 7:30, 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sai. 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 - Liar Liar-Beavis and Butt-head Fn. 7:30, Liar Beavis and Sutt-nead Fr. 7:30, 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sa., 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sa., 7:30, 10; weekdays 5, 7:30, 10 • Space Jam Sat. 11:30 a.m., 2, 5

RAV CHEN Con Air Fn. 7:30, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7:30, 9:45, 12:15 a.m.; weekdays 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The English Patlent Fn. 7:30, 9:45 • The English Patlent Fri. 10; Sat. 6:45, 9:45; weekdays 6:30, 9:30 • Absolute Powar Fn. 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:15, 9:45• Donnie Brasco Fn. 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7:15, 9:45; weekdaya 5, 7:15, 9:45 • Return of the Jedl⊷Homeward Bound It⊷Empire Strikes Back Sat. 11 a.m. • Metro Fn. 7:30; Sat. 11 a.m.

Driva Fn. 7:30, 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sal. 5. 7:30, 10; waakdays 7:30, 10 - Maxhmum Risk Fri. 7:45, 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 5, 7:45, 10, weekdays 7:45, 10 - Crash Fri. 7:45, 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 5, 7:45, 10; weekdays 7:45, 10 - Marco Polo Fri, 7:30, 10, 12:30 a.m.; Sat. 5, 7:30, 10; weekdays 7:30, 10

YEHUD

RAV CHEN RAV CHEN

Con Atr Fri. 7:30, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7:15, 9:45, 12:15 a.m.; weekdays 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Donnia Brasco Fii. 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:15, 9:45 · The English Pallent Fri. 10: Sat. 8:45, 9:45; weekdays 8:30, 9:30 - Absolute Power Fri. 7:30, 10, 12:15 a.m.; Sat. 7:15, 9:45; weekdays 5, 7:15, 9:45 • Metro Fri. 7:30; Sat. 11 a.m. • Return of the Jedi∞Empira Strikes Back e-Momeward Bound it

All times are p.m. unless otherwise Indi-

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2000 Continued from Page 1

Education Ministry. Housing Ministry, National Insurance Institute and the department responsible for processing tax data are among the government branches that have a lot more work to do before their

systems are glitch-free. These ministries may not have the resources to meet the mid-1998 deadline.

"We have the biggest computer system in the government and we need more money." said Sophie Mintz, manager of information technologies at the

Ministry of Education. The Israeli tender law is also affecting some ministries" ability to solve the problem in a timely and cost-efficient manner.

Unlike private organizations, government bodies can not go shopping for the cheapest solution, Instead, the law obligates any ministry that wants to use outside resources to go through a tender process, which takes any-

where from six months to a year. Because the problem doesn't have a precedent, we have had a hard time planning for the tender," said an undisclosed source at the NII. "If the government won't take a stand against the lender law, we won't have enough time to solve the prob-

The process of cleaning up the computer rubble will be costly and timely, causing a major government slowdown.

Outside observers say time is running out and suggest the Treasury appoint one government committee to deal solely

with YK2. "Like in a war situation, the tender law should be waived and there should be a national body that takes care of this situation, rather than everybody doing what they want," says Norbert Guez, project manager for the year 2000 problem at Tadiran Information Systems.

So far, Accountant-General Shai Talmon has indicated that he will neither set up one administrative body nor waive the tender law. A Treasury spokesman -Talmon refused to comment directly - said the the millennium problem does not constitute an emergency.

Time will tell.

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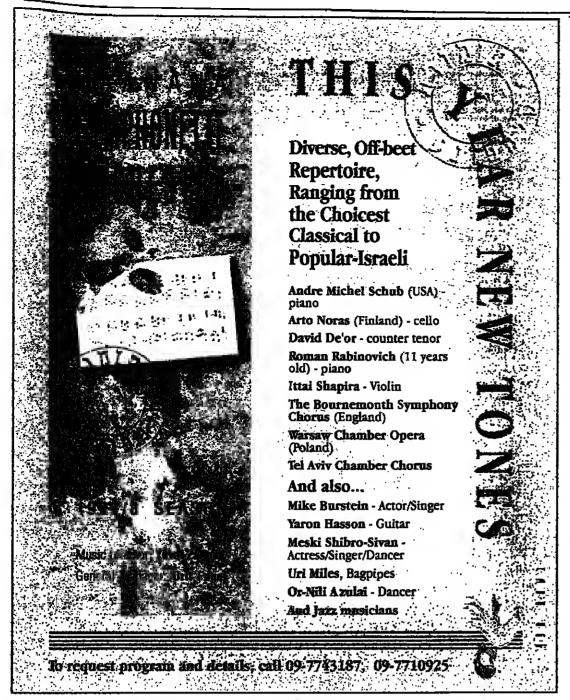
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Security increased at Israeli, US embassies in Bangkok

BANGKOK (AP) - Thai police have tightened security at the US and Israeli embassies after a court upheld the death sentence of an Iranian man convicted of plotting to bomb Israel's embassy in 1994, newspapers reported yes-

terday.

Authorities took preventive measures to secure the embassies and diplomatic residences, fearing retaliation following an Appeals Court ruling affirming Hossein Shahriari Far's conviction last year for murder, intended sabotage, membership in a criminal gang and possession of bomb-making material.

The nature of the security measures was not specified. US Embassy officials refused to comment. A phone message at the Israeli Embassy said the mission was closed yesterday.

Witnesses identified Shahriari Far as the driver who abandoned a rental truck laden with explosives after an accident less than a kilometer from the Israeli Embassy. The strangled and beaten body of a rental company employee was found inside the

Police experts said the bomb similar to the one that severely damaged New York's World Trade Center in 1993, could bave destroyed a large building.



Flying the flag

Members of the Zionist Youth Council march down Jerusalem's Rehov Bar-Ilan carrying the national flag yesterday to protest the burning of the flag on Lag Ba'omer.

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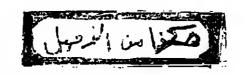
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Report: Hizbullah has long-range Katyushas

By DAYID RUDGE

Hizbullah probably possesses long-range Katyusha rockets capable of reaching Haifa's bayside suburbs - and may even have fired some of them during last April's Operation Grapes of Wrath, according to an article in the London-based Foreign

The fortnightly newsletter said it had been informed at the time that a number of rockets had been fired deep into Israel - well beyond the 21 kilometer-range of the regular 122 mm. Katyusha.

These reports could not be confirmed at the time, the newsletter said. It noted, however, that officials in Israel began talking about the possibility that Hizbullah had acquired the long-range 240 mm. Katyusha rockets shortly after the operation ended.

Furthermore, according to the instructed to plan for the possibility of rocket attacks on Haifa's bayside suburbs.

According to Foreign Report, the head of Hizbullah in south Lebanon Sheikh Nabil Kaouk recently gave a strong hint that the organization does possess the long-range rockets.

Kaouk claimed in a lengthy interview, published a month ago in the An-Nahr Lebanese daily newspaper, that Hizbullah, a year after Grapes of Wrath, was better prepared to deal with Israeli attacks and "come up with some surprises."

He also maintained that Israel stopped its air raids on Beirut during last year's cross-border fighting, because of "unmistakable signals" sent by Hizbullah to Israel - apparently in the form of the long-range Katyusha rockets

Foreign Report said it bad heard some time ago of longer-range Iranian-produced Katyusha rockreport, the IDF's Home Front ets being in Hizbullah's bands, Command was subsequently and it seemed that the organization had received more of them.

MA program starting in clinical embryology

By JUDY SIEGEL

The baby take-home rate of the country's two dozen in-vitro fertilization units is likely to rise significantly when the graduates of Israel's first MA program in clinical embryology and gametology

reach the workplace. Bar-Ilan University and the Herzliya Medical Centers (HMC) have announced the opening of such a program, one of the first three in the world. The 75 staffers of Israel's IVF clinics learned techniques on the job, as these developed and became much more sophisticated since the birth of the world's first IVF baby, Louise Brown, about two decades ago, said Dr. Yona Barak, HMC's chief biologist who has worked on the

idea for two years. Barak, national president of the Israel IVF Embryologist Society, says practical experience will be gained at the HMC's IVF lab. He expects the program to be taught in English and possibly Hebrew.

It bas already attracted much interest from professionals in Turkey, and could be joined by Araba from Middle Eastern countries as well, said Prof. Benjamin Bartoov, of Bar-Ilan, which will run the program's theoretical courses.

According to HMC president Dr. Aubrey Joffe, it's the fist time that a private bospital has been accredited by an Israeli university to participate in a degree course. HMC has already helped establish IVF units in Russia and Turkey.

Similar programs bave been started by Cambridge University in England and in Singapore, and another is due to open in Barcelona.

Barak says that staffers now working in IVF labs will be invited to take courses in the theoretical material, including the ethics of assisted reproductive technology, in order to earn MA degrees. The majority of the applicants so far have been women, Bartoov

Man drowns off TA beach

The body of a man washed ashore at Tel Aviv's Bogroshov Beach yesterday afternoon. The body was brought to the Abu Kabir Forensics Institute. It was determined that the man, in his 30s, had drowned and that there were no signs of violence on his body. Last night, police had still not succeeded in identifying the body.

Eight hurt in car accident

Eight people were injured, one of them moderately and the others lightly, when a car and a van collided in Lod yesterday evening. Police have not yet determined the cause of the crash.

Ben-Shabbat reelected Teachers' Union head

Avraham Ben-Sbabbat was 🐇 unanimously reelected to a second four-year term as the head of the Teachers' Union yester-

Jerusalem Post Staff

1.44

Woman claims she was raped by Dutch soccer star Kluivert

AMSTERDAM (AP) - AC Milan-bound striker Patrick Kluwert and three other men have been accused of raping a 20-yearold woman, and police said yesterday they were investigating the alle-

"A 20-year-old woman made a report to us of rape by four young well-known soccer player," police spokesman Klaas Wilting said Kinivert who has been ques-

tioned by police, was in South America with Ajax for a series of friendly matches. He has not been charged and is scheduled to return to the Netherlands today.

The player's attorney, Gerard Spong, denied that a crime was

"My client and his friends have done absolutely nothing wrong," he said in an interview with the Dutch daily De Telegraaf, which broke the story yesterday. "The girl's accusation is invented from A-to-Z."

The accusation was the latest blot on the 20-year-old Dutch international's career, who received a sen-tence of 240 hours of community service in May 1996 after being convicted of vehicular homicide. The conviction came after Kluivert smashed a borrowed BMW into another car, killing the driver.

Kluivert helped Ajax to the 1996 European Champions Cup final,

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Section Section

scoring five goals in the tournament. He is moving to Milan next season.

His accuser, whose name was not released, also told her story to a Dutch supermarket tabloid, explicitly detailing what she described as a gang rape in Kluivert's apartment in Amsterdam on May 11.

The case is likely to hinge on whether any sex was forced or vol-

The woman claimed she was picked up by Kluivert and his friends outside an Amsterdam nightclub called Sinners and then taken by taxi back to Kluivert's apartment.

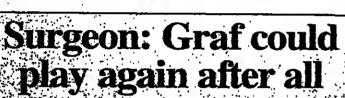
They kissed me and then forced me into different sorts of sex," the woman told Prive magazine.

The magazine's editor, Wilma Nanninga, who interviewed the girl four times, said she had not paid for

"The girl does not want money from Kluivert, she wants justice to be done," Nanninga said.

Police filed the accusation with the Amsterdam public prosecutor. who asked for further investigation before deciding whether to charge Kluivert. A conviction could bring a sentence of up to 12 years in prison, an expert on Duich rape cases said.

Police spokesman Wilting said Kluivert had a brief police interview but was not treated as a suspect at



FRANKFURT (Renter) - The surgeon who carried out a two-hour operation on Steffi Graf's knee this week said yesterday the German could still play again if she put everything into the recovery process. She has always said she wants above all else to play again.

She can do it, but it will need all her strength, self-discipline and toughness, said Reinhard Weinstabl, who carried out the operation

Weinstabl, who repaired damaged tendon and cartilage in Graf's less tone, said the operation had become unavoidable.

The kneedan was already displaced to such an extent that she would soon have had problems even just with walking, he said, adding that the fact that the injury was an old one could lengthen the

adding that the fact hat the injury was an old one could lengthen me recovery process.

Graf has transferred to a private physiotherapy ching at Gars am Kamp, 60 kms northwest of the flustrian capital. Doctors expect the recovery to take four to six months, ruling her out of both rentaining grand stant eyears this year. Wimbledon and the US Open.

Generally's mass circulation Bild newspiper calculated vesterday that the 27-year-old Graf, who has won 21 grand stain titles in her 16 year emission career, had suffered over 60 injuries and illnesses during the transfer transfe

sug that time."
Under the headline "Steffi's Poor Old Body", the paper said Graf's apper thigh muscles, several dislocated back vertebrae and ripped stomach muscle fiber

Reiffel makes impressive start with 3 for 15

ing Bulk NOTTINGHAM (Reuter) - Paul Reiffel started his tour impressively and fellow paceman Glenn McGrath showed encouraging signs of a return to form to lift the Australians

yesterday. A CONTRACT E The pair shared seven wickets as Notinghamshire were bowled out for 239 on the second day of their three-day match at Trent Bridge, rain having prevented any play on Wednesday's scheduled first day.

Australia lost opener Michael Slater for 14 and were 51 for one at

Reiffel shrugged aside the fact he had not bowled for the capture three for 15 from his 10-over William Line

spell, doing most of the early damage. McGrath robbed New Zealand Test batsman Nathan Astle of a century by one run and scythed through the tail to finish with four for 63. It was Reiffel who caught the eye.

though, and with the erratic Brendon Julian conceding 70 runs in his 18 overs, the 30-year-old seamer must be the favorite to support McGrath and Mike Kasprowicz in the second Test against England at Lord's next week. Reiffel arrived on Tuesday, having been added to the tour party because of injury to Jason Gillespie, who has a strained hamstring, and Andy Bichel, who is to return home

because of back trouble.

John Emburey retires from first-class cricket at age 44

LONDON (AP) - Former England spinner John Emburey announced his retirement from first-class cricket yesterday, ending a career spanning 30 years. He

5 for the played 64 Tests for England – one as cantain of 38.40. In first-class cricket, he took 1,608 wickets and made 12,021 runs

ingland in 1978 after excellent pervants to devote more time and

effort to his coaching role but will continue to play in one day games for Northants.

"I have had a marvellous career at the highest level and have enjoyed every minute of it," Emburey said. "But I made it clear when I joined Northants that my career was going to revolve around coaching as the main priority.

That is the direction I want to go in and it has been difficult combining playing and coaching responsi-

bilities," he said. Emburey will also be assistant coach to the England team which tours the West Indies and Sharjah

Jones quits as Derbyshire captain

LONDON (Reuter) - Dean Jones uil as Derbyshire captain and ressing room unrest and poor per-rock decision.

It is with deepest regret that I we informed Derbyshire County licket Club that I am resigning as prain and overseas professional thwith, the former Australian of the batsman said in a statement. in to second place in the county

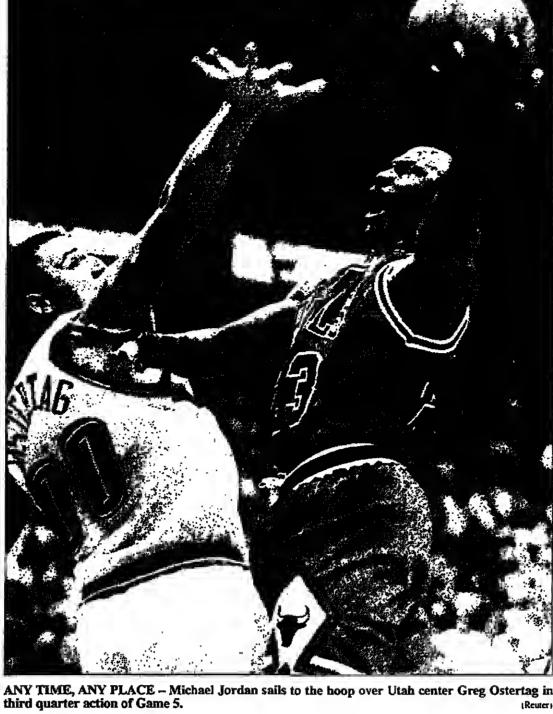
orts Editors: Joseph Hoffman and Ori Lawis

championship, blamed a lack of support from senior players for the decision which he described as one of the toughest in his career.

"Over the past month a few senior players have failed to give me any support in my endeavors to carry on the Derbyshire CCC success from last year," he said.

"These players have difficulty in coming to terms with the fundamentals that bring success."
Derbyshire currently lie second bottom in the 18-team champi-

Phillip DeFreitas, the current vice-captain, has been appointed skipper for the next two matches.



Jordan shrugs off illness, leads Bulls to within one win of title

(Reuter) - Michael Jordan, so sick of us." he could hardly stand, courageouschampions one win away from their fifth NBA title in seven years. Jordan, playing all but four min-

utes of the game, scored 38 points, and hit a key 3-pointer with 25 sec-

Asked to compare this game to his many other feats, the NBA's No. 1 superstar said: "This is probably the best in terms of what - I almost played myself into passing out. I came in and I was almost dehydrated and it was all just to win a basketball game.
"I gave a lot of effort and I'm just

glad we won. Because if we'd lost, it would have been very devastating." Jordan, who was up vomiting all night Tuesday and stayed in bed all day Wednesday, also had seven rebounds and five assists as the best-of-seveo Finals head back to Chicago for Game 6 today, and if

necessary, Game 7 Sunday.
"He fell like be was gonna faint. guess he was pretty dehydrated and just tired but he gutted it out," said Scottie Pippen, who was sec-ond high on the Bulls with 17 points, but shot just 5-of-17 from

"We owe this win to him. He did everything he could to carry us," Pippen said.

"Tonight we had a heroic effort by Michael," said Chicago coach Phil Jackson, "and a learn that played with a little more resolve and we were able to fight back from the deficit in the first half and get the game back to where we could manage it.

"We had a good stretch run down the end and they didn't." Said Utah coach Jerry Sloan: "They showed why they're a championship team.

LAKE CITY, Utah We have a tough assignment ahead

The Jazz, seeking their first ly carried the Chicago Bulls to a championship in their first NBA 90-88 victory over the Utah Jazz Finals, were led by Karl Malone's Greg Ostertag came up big with 13 points and 15 rebounds. John Stockton also scored 13.

The lazz, who had won their last 23 games at home, knew nothing about Jordan's sickness.

Utah's home record for the postseason ends at 10-1, The Chicago win marked only

the second road victory in the last 13 NBA Finals games. After making only 5-of-12 free throw attempts in Game 4, the Bulls made 20-of-30. After getting

oo free throws in the previous

game, Jordan made 10-of-12, along with 13-for-27 shooting from the The Bulls got more foul calls by not settling for outside shots, "We

made a conscious effort in the last two days," Jackson said, "telling the guys that we had to limit our 3point shooting. We were casting them too many 3-pointers, we had to get the ball back inside. I thought we look it back in." Utah led by as many as 16 points in the first quarter and was ahead for the majority of the game.

But the Bulls caught Utah for a final time at 85-85 when Jordan made 1-of-2 free throws with 46.5 left in the game.

On the second free throw - the miss - Chicago's Toni Kukoc tipped out the rebound to keep possession. "I didn't get a good body on Toni Kukoc and he was able to tip the ball around to Michael," Majone lamented.

It was costly, because Jordan hit a 3-pointer to put the Bulls in front

An Ostertag shot down low cut the lead to 88-86, but with the Jazz pressing fullcourt, the Bulls got the ball to Luc Longley under the basket for a jam and a 90-87 lead with

Jeff Hornacek missed a potentialgame-tying 3-pointer and Stockton made 1-of-2 free throws for the final score.

Stockton admitted that the Jazz had let a golden opportunity slip

Yeah, yeah. This was a big game for us. And we had opportunities. We had a nice lead and we even had a nice little run there early in the fourth that we felt we could build on, and didn't take advantage of," Stockton said.

"We let it slip away," said Bryon Russell, "Now we have to go do a hard thing, and that's win two straight over there.

CHICAGO (90) Pippen 5-17 7-9 17, Rodman 1-1 0-2 2, Longley 6-7 0-1 12, Jordan 13-27 10-12 3B, Harper 2-4 0-0 5, Williams 2-8 3-6 7, Kerr 0-3 0-0 0, Kukoc 3-5 0-0 9, Buechler 0-0 0-0 0, Caffey 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 32-72 20-

UTAH (88) Russell 4-10 0-0 II, Malone 7-17 5-9 19, Ostertag 5-8 3-4 13, Hornacek 2-11 2-3 7, Stockton 5-19 2-3 13, Anderson 1-2 0-0 2,

Eisley 1-3 0-0 2, Morris 4-7 0-0 11, Foster 0-3 6-6 6, Carr 2-4 0-0 4, Keefe 0-0 0-0 0. Intals 31-75 18-25 88. Chicago 16 33 18 23 - 90 Utah 29 24 19 16 - 88 3-Point goals- Chicago 6-15

(Inkoc 3-4, Jordan 2-5, Harper I-1, Kerr 0-2, Pippen 0-3), Utah 8-19 (Russell 3-5, Horris 3-5, Hornacek 1-4, Stockton 1-4, Malone 0-1). Fouled out — Rodman. Rebounds — Chicago 49 (Pipper 10), Urah 52 (Ostertag 15). Assists — Chicago 17 (Jordan, Pippen 5), Utah 21 (Malone 6). Total fouls - Chicago 25, litah 25. Technicals - Williams, Kerr, Stockton. A-19,9II

Clemens was charged with four

earned runs and seven hits in

seven-plus innings. He walked

American League

three and struck out five.

Clemens finally loses as Jays fall to Mariners

TORONTO (Reuter) - After winning his first 11 decisions with the Toronto Blue Jays, a rejuvenaled Roger Clemens finally suffered his first setback of the season on Wednesday. Jeff Fassero pitched 8 1/3 strong

innings to lead the Seattle Mariners to a 5-1 victory over Toronio. "It was a beautiful game, we had

plenty of chances 10 stay close," said Clemens. "Bottom line is Jeff pitched great." Fassero (6-2) allowed five hits and struck out seven, falling just two outs shy of his first American

League complete game. Bobby Ayala recorded the final Iwo outs. "I had to concentrate a lot more because of the pitcher 1 was throwing against," Fassero said of Clemens. "It's by far the best 1've thrown on in this league."

Clemens (11-1), who is tied with Bobby Jones of the New York Mets for the major league lead in wins, had won all but one of his previous 12 starts for the

Florida Montreal

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New York Philadelphia

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National League

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Wednesday's NL games: Chicago Cubs 5, NY Mets 4; Colorado 9, Atlanta 6; Florida 6, Sae Francisco 3; Montreal 4, Philadelphia 3; Cincinnati 2, Pittsburgh 1; LossAngeles 16, Houston 5; St. Louis 8, San Diego 3.

Wednesday's AL games: Seattle 5, Toronto 1; Detroit 4, Oakland 2; Kansas City 6, Anahelm 1; Boston 10, Baltimore 1; NY Yankees 7, Chicago White Sox 5; Cleveland 4, Milwankee 3, Hitmings; Texas 9, Minnesota 6.

Montgomerie takes early lead at US Open BETHESDA, Maryland (API - fairway, but still managed to save

Colin Montgomerie handled the brutal Congressional Country Club with ease yesterday, shonting a 5under-par 65 to take the early firstround lead at the 97th US Open.

The Scotsman was in his element at a US Open setup that demands accuracy and offers no breathers over the 7,213 yard (6,492 meters)

Monigomerie threatened to break the major championship record of 63 after getting to 6 under through 16 holes, but made his only bogey when he dumped a 7-iron into the greenside bunker at No. 17.

The 7-iron at 17 1'd like to take back, but there's a lot I'd like to keep," Montgomerie said.

Montgomerie has always played the US Open well because of his accuracy from the tee. He finished third in 1992 at Pebble Beach, and lost in a three-way playoff at Oakmont in 1994.

The 65 fied for his best score at the US Open. He shot a 65 in the second round at Oakmont to take the lead at the halfway point.

Yesterday's round Montgomerie 31 under par over his last six rounds, dating to a final-round 64 at the Volvo PGA

Championship in Europe. He won the European Grand Prix last week by closing with a 65. Montgomerie missed only one par - a ranty at Congressional because of rough so thick that marshals had 10 place a white flag by the ball to keep sight of it, even if it just trickled out of the fairway.

That set the challenge for Tiger Woods, who is trying to become the first player since Jack Nicklaus in 1972 to win the US Masters and the US Open in the same year.

He missed a 4-foot bindie on No.

1. bindied the 235-yard second hole from just under a 3 feet and then three-putted from 40 feet for bogey on No. 3. He got back to 1 under with a 25-foot birdie on the next

Greg Norman, meanwhile, continued to struggle. Despite signs that his game was coming around. Norman needed a birdie at No. 17 to

Also at 75 were Fred Couples, Steve Elkington, Phil Mickelson and Davis Love III, All of them had the same problems - keeping the

ball in play. Only three other players were under par, including Woods at 1

under through four holes. Nick Faldo started with three straight pars, including a 6-foot save from the bunker at No. 1.

Jack Nicklaus, playing in his 142nd consecutive major and 41st straight US Open, made the turn at 1 under 34 and finished at 3-over 73.

Ivanisevic, Sampras through at Queen's

LONDON (Reuter) - Goran Ivanisevic brushed aside the challenge of Britain's Martin Lee at Queen's Club yesterday and then privately focused his sights on the Wimbledon title he so covets.

The third-seeded Croat left-hander blitzed former junior world No. 1 Lee on an overcast center court 6-1, 7-5 to reach the last eight of the \$700,000 London grasscourt championships, showing the composure often lacking in his previous bids to capture the lop prize at Wimbledon.

Top seed Pete Sampras had an even easier route to the quarter-finals when his opponent, New Zealand's Brett Steven, withdrew suffering from a stomach bug and handed the world No. 1 a third-round walkover.

Sampras now meets Swede Jonas Bjorkman, who ousted Frenchman Stephane Simian 6-4, 7-5. British fourth seed Tim Henman was sent spinning out of the tournament by world No. 105 Jens Knippschild. The peroxide-haired German thumped

British hopes are not totally dashed, however. Greg Rusedski, seeded 16, swept to a 6-3, 6-2 victory over Australian Scott Draper, who dispatched second seed Michael Chang in Wednesday's second-round match,

He now meets French Open semifinalist Pat Rafter, who came from a set down to beat former world No. 1 Jim Courier 4-6, 6-3, 6-3. Knippschild will be hoping to follow up his best-ever victory with a win

over huge-serving Mark Philippoussis in the quarters. The Australian sixth seed came through safely against Zimbabwean Byron

An all-French affair saw Jerome Golmard squeeze past Jean-Philippe Fleurian 2-6, 6-1, 6-4 and his reward is a quarter-final clash with Ivanisevic.

Attorney: Mary Slaney is a 'sacrificial lamb'

Mary Slaney has been made "a sacrificial lamb" in her fight against an IAAF doping nule that discriminates against women, her attorney said Wednesday after the American distance star was suspended by US officials for an alleged positive drug

The decision prohibits the queen of American running from participating in the national championships, which began here Wednesday. She also could be forced to forfeit her silver medal from the women's 1,500 meters at the March world indoor championships if further US hearings fail to exonerate her.

"But we are going to get her cleared," her anorney, Jim Coleman, said in an interview. "And part of her legacy may be that in addition to her track career that she got rid of this rule." Under the rule, which led to Slaney's suspension, a testosterone to epitestosterone ratio of more than 6-to-1 is deemed suspicious and an athlete may be suspended.

"It's a bad rule, and it is going to be removed in this country, and I

INDIANAPOLIS (Reuter) - hope we will have it thrown out internationally," Coleman said.

"A lot of people have been and are going to be damaged by this rule, and Mary is sort of the sacrificial lamb, because she is the first really big-name person to be caught up in this." Coleman said he had asked the US Olympic Comminee to declare that the rule discriminates against women and therefore would be in violation of the US Amateur Sports Act, a federal law.

The ratio hasn't been validated for women," said Coleman, a Duke University law professor. "It is based on research done on men. What research has been done on women indicates that the rule is not valid." Slaney's ratio was found to be above the 6-to-1 level in a test at the US Olympic trials last summer, and two weeks ago the IAAF suspended her, pending the outcome of US hearings into the case.

On Tuesday night, a US panel also suspended Slaney and declared her ineligible for the national championships, which also makes her ineligible for the August world champi-

US won't give Johnson wild card to world championships

INDIANAPOLIS (Reuter) -USA Track and Field's executive committee decided yesterday that it would not change the American selection process for the world championships team by issuing "wild card" entries to double Olympic champion Michael

Johnson and other injured US stars. But US track officials said it would welcome the IAAF inviting all 1995 world champions to defend their litles in Athens in August, That would include Johnson, decathlete Dan O'Brien and women's sprinter Gwen Torrence, who are all missing this week's national meet because of injuries.

"We decided there was no legal way that we could change our selection process," USATF first vice president Bill Roe said after

the committee meeting. "It is up to the IAAF to initiate the process." Whether the the world governing body would do that is IAAF spokesman Giorgio

Reineri, speaking from Monaco before the US action, said: "The IAAF could consider the possibility of giving them a wild card or invitation." Many nations reserve places on

their Olympic and world championships teams for their elite athletes. But under strict US qualifying rules, only those who finish in the top three at the US championships are eligible for the American team.

"The US selection process has produced the best teams in the world," USATF president Pat Rico said in a statement.

"We have dominated every Olympics since 1956 and we've won every world championships since the first meet in 1983. We will not change our selection process"



Hebrew Book Week

Children look through the latest offerings at Jerusalem's Safra Square, where publishers and booksellers set up stalls for Hebrew Book Week which opened yesterday throughout the country.

(Brian Heptiler)

Cause of meningitis in Gaza unclear

Israeli team meets with PA officials

By JUDY STEGEL

Most of the meningitis cases reported in the Gaza Strip during the past six months have been of the more benign viral variety and affected children aged two to four.

This was revealed in a meeting yesterday between medical teams from the Health Ministry and the Palestinian Authority. The Israeli team, which returned from the Erez checkpoint to report back to Health Minister Yehoshua Matza, said none of the affected children were older than 10.

The cause of the infection, said Dr. Yitzhak Sever, health liaison to the PA, is unknown, but it is possible that the disease was spread by children's food, including milk

powder and ice cream reaching the autonomous areas. These foods do not reach Israel, he stressed.

As a result of the outbreak, which has so far affected 300 since January (150 of them in the past three weeks), the official in charge of public health in the PA called Health Ministry experts for consultations. The two teams worked "in full cooperation" and carried out a professional epidemiological study in the field, the ministry said.

Samples of spinal fluid taken from the children will be sent for examination at the ministry's central viral lab at Sheba Hospital. There, the specific pathogen will be identified during the next two

Due to fears that the source of infection was children's food, it was decided that the PA would carry out comprehensive tests of food products. PA officials will have an open line for consulting with Israeli experts whenever needed.

Ministry experts ruled out the need to stop the entry of Palestinian workers into Israel because the infection has affected only young children, and has struck inside Israel as well. During the first half of 1996, there were 77 reported cases inside Israel of viral meningitis, and 99 so far this year.

Israel 23rd in quality of life

By MARILYN HENRY

In an international ranking of quality of life, Israel is sandwiched between Hong Kong and Cyprus, according to the UN Human Development Index published yesterday in New York.

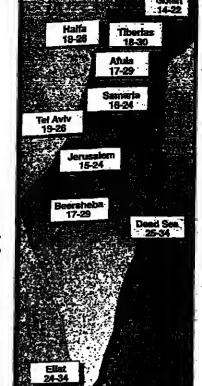
Canada, France, Norway, the US and Iceland had the highest ratings, according to the survey, which was conducted by the UN Development

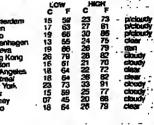
The index used 1994 data on per capita income, education and life expectancy to calculate the rankings. Israel, straddling the line between industrial and developing nations, was ranked 23, below Greece and Italy, but above Singapore, Chile, South Korea and

The highest ranking Arab states were Brunei Darussalem (38). Bahrain (43) and United Arab Emirates (44).

The UN index showed uneven progress around the globe. Economic growth has raised the standard of living for 1.5 billion people. Adult illiteracy has been halved. Infant mortality has been cut by nearly three-fifths, and more than three-fourths of the . orld's population is expected to iive to the age of

The index fell in 30 countries. There was a stunning deterioration in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, where 120 million people live in poverty, compared to 4 million in 1988, the report said.







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VALID TO 10/5/97 - 20/6/97

PA: US vote on capital declaration of war

Palestinians yesterday described laration of war a non-bind ing US House of Representatives resolution calling on President Bill Clinton to reaffirm that Jerusalem must remain Israel's

"undivided capital." This decision will leave a dark shadow on security and stability-in the Middle East and in-Palestine. It is a clear call for violence and settlements at the same time." said Ahmed Abdel-Rahman, general secretary of the

Palestinian Authority cabinet. "Recognizing the annexation of Jerusalem to Israel and opening. an embassy there without recognizing east Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine is a declaration of war on the Palestinian people," he said. (Reuter)

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Key Events: 1997 Global Board of Trustees Meetings and "Jewish Identity Leadership Mission" to Israel, Prague & Basel

Monday, June 16

Dedication of the Frank and Vilma Martin (Szusz) Land of Israel Studies Department

Convocation Ceremony Conferring Honorary Doctorates

Lorenz Cederbaum Donald J. Cohen Menachem Elon Isidore Falk

Yosef Kapach Mira Koschitzky Natan Sharansky

Keynote Address: Elyakim Rubinstein, Attorney General of the State of Israel (7:30 pm, Bob Shapell Amphitheater on cumpus. Public invited. RSVP to tel. 03-531-8513)

Tuesday, June 17

Reception at the President's Official Residence, Jerusalem Dedication of the Aharon and Rachel Dahan Family **Exodus Classroom Building**

Dedication of the Rabbi Harry Wohlberg Chair in Biblical

Wednesday, June 18

Dedication of the Amold and Leona Finkler Hall of Human Rights

Dedication of the Jack and Pearl Resnick Institute for Advanced Technology Building

Thursday, June 19

Convening Conference of the International Center for Jewish Identity

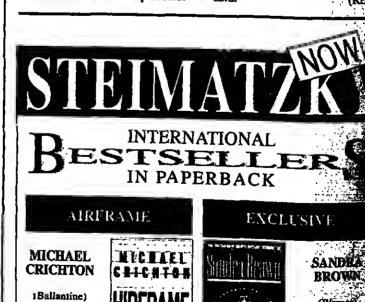
Friday, June 20

Ceremony Conferring a Doctorate, Honoris Causa upon Mr. Václav Havel, President of the Czech Republic, in Prague

Tuesday, June 24

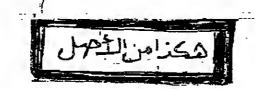
Finals of the International Competition on Jewish Identity for Jewish youth from Israel and the Diaspora. Sponsored by Bar-Ilan University.





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